

Ancestors from what Four Nations?



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Husband's Name:

VALENTINE WILLIAM "BILLY" SMITH

Born: 12 July 1924 Braeholm, Logan Co., West Virginia¹
Married: 19 June 1948 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey²
Died: 19 June 2006 West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Co., FL
Cremation: Cremains scattered at sea and buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton, NJ
Father: JOSEPH JOHN SMITH (6 January 1883 to 5 September 1940)
Mother: ANNA MARY KUTARNIA (22 July 1889 to 1 November 1978)

Wife's Name:

ALBERTA JEAN MATELENA

Born: 4 February 1929 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Died: 6 December 1971 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Buried: *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton, New Jersey
Father: ALBERT JOSEPH MATELENA (5 February 1896 to 8 October 1981)
Mother: DOROTHY RUTH SOUTHARD (17 January 1907 to 12 November 1960)

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) WILLIAM CRAIG SMITH	8 October 1951	Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
2) VALERIE JEAN SMITH	15 November 1952	Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
3) ROBERT JOSEPH SMITH	19 January 1955	Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
4) BRIAN ALBERT SMITH	9 August 1959	Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
5) MELISSA DOROTHY SMITH	12 March 1966	Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey

They met in the summer of 1946 when VALENTINE'S friend, JOHN NABINGER, asked him to double-date with DOROTHY and MARIE MATELENA. While sitting on the living room couch, ALBERTA came up from the basement where she had been washing the family dog. After introductions, VALENTINE asked her for a date, despite her disheveled and damp appearance. Their engagement was announced in local newspapers in February 1948.³

They were married on Saturday, 19 June 1948 by REVEREND WILLIAM J. CAMPBELL at Saint Mary's Cathedral in Trenton, New Jersey. His brother, JOHN J. SMITH was best man and her sister, DOROTHY MATELENA was maid-of-honor. The other members of the wedding party were: ushers - JOSEPH and MICHAEL SMITH, brothers of the groom, and PETER GURLAND, brother-in-law of the groom; bridesmaids - KATHRYN SMITH, twin sister of the groom, DOLORES DEFILLIPS FURMAN, cousin of the bride, and THERESA LAUTERIO GAVENDA, first cousin once removed of the bride; and BARBARA DUPRAS, niece of the groom, was the flower-girl. Their reception was held at Fisher's Restaurant (later Landwehr's) on the Delaware River, north



¹ Certificate of Live Birth, Valentine Smith, No.147-41390; West Virginia Dep't. of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, Charleston, WV 25305

² Certificate of Marriage No. 48881, Mercer County, NJ

³ Trenton *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 1 February 1948, part 3, page 3, column 5.

of Trenton. Outside the Dayton House Pub, the newlyweds were introduced to an old Hungarian tradition – giving the bride a *bunkósbót* to help keep her husband in line. This Hungarian version of the cudgel is similar to the Irish *shillelagh*, in that both began as weapons and are now used during wedding festivities. They spent two weeks of their honeymoon in a cabin on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee in central New Hampshire and two more weeks at Niagara Falls, New York during which they were on the Canadian side of the falls between June 27th and 30th. An announcement appeared in Trenton’s *Sunday Times-Advertiser* on 29 August 1948.



At first they lived above the Dayton House Pub, remodeling the third floor into an apartment. VALENTINE used his GI benefits to enter Drexel Institute of Technology, now Drexel College, on Chestnut Avenue in Philadelphia on the 28th of January 1949 in the electrical engineering program. They lived at what is now Mercerville Trailer Park on Route 130 in Robbinsville, New Jersey during the two terms he studied there; ending 21 July 1949.⁴ During these first few years, their life was hectic – 3 moves in a short time, work and college for VALENTINE, living away from home for the first time for ALBERTA and, some say, without a telephone or a car to keep in touch. Available records indicate that, contrary to the “common knowledge” of family members, VALENTINE stopped working at his mother’s Pub during the period he was a Drexel student. In 1949 the young couple was involved in a serious head-on automobile accident in the early evening hours of Thursday, December 8th on Route 33 near the Club Cilo, actually the Clio Club which became Cedar Gardens in Mercerville in 1952. *Mrs. Smith suffered a sprained right ankle, a cut on the right shin which required three stitches and cuts of the hands and face. Her husband received a slight laceration and a bump on his forehead. Both were treated at St. Francis Hospital.* The collision occurred when both drivers, traveling in opposite directions, entered the middle passing lane of the three-lane roadway to pass other drivers. The other driver, 19 year old DONALD RAETER of Roosevelt, NJ was unhurt. *LIEUTENANT PHILLIP BOOZ took the victims to the hospital in a police ambulance.* They were summoned to appear in the township municipal court on December 15th.⁵ ALBERTA could still trace the scar on her leg many years later. The afore-mentioned “common knowledge” of family members also characterize the time spent living at the mobile home park in Robbinsville as being a period of devastating isolation for ALBERTA. However, like so much of such “knowledge” – it does not hold up to scrutiny. When talking with one of ALBERTA’S favorite cousins, GLADYS (MATELENA) GROPP, this author was surprised to find out that ALBERTA did have friends nearby. This very cousin lived in a mobile home in the same park with her husband ANDY. And if the closeness of a favorite cousin was insufficient, ALBERTA’S favorite aunt and uncle, JOHN and JOSEPHINE MATELENA, lived in the mobile home next to their daughter GLADYS! So much for the *isolation* that was so devastating to ALBERTA (which was her husband’s fault according to more than one of ALBERTA’S friends and relatives). This does not negate the fact that, while living in the mobile home, ALBERTA suffered what was called at that time, a nervous breakdown. Her sister DOROTHY referred her to a psychiatrist she knew from being a nurse at Saint Francis Hospital and ALBERTA recovered under his care while in a private sanitarium for three months.

⁴ E-mail to author from Mary Frances McElhare, Clerk, Academic Records, Drexel College, 25 June 2004.

⁵ Trenton Evening Times, 9 December 1949.

When ALBERTA returned to the trailer park she found they had new neighbors – newlyweds LOUIS and JULIE MAKRANCY were living there while their home was being built on Kuser Road. They would remain great friends throughout their lives and LOUIS would serve as confirmation sponsor for each son and JULIE did the same for both daughters. Around this time ALBERTA was diagnosed with an enlarged thyroid gland or goiter which was surgically reduced in size. This was a very difficult time for the young couple and virtually no photographs of their time spent in the mobile home are known to exist with one exception – that being one taken of their first child, CRAIG, on their sofa, and that one is only known through the recollection of the author as the whereabouts of that picture are not known but it is believed to have been in one of the boxes that would be lost when VALENTINE moved to Florida many years later.

On 18 August 1952, they bought a house, complete with a “Tappan Gas Range 36,” on a 55 X 100 foot lot at 684 Independence Avenue, in the DeCou Village section of Hamilton Township, a suburb of Trenton, New Jersey from the Arbor Haven Corporation of Camden, NJ.⁶ They financed their purchase with a \$10,000.00 mortgage from South Jersey Mortgage Company that had monthly payments of \$52.79.⁷ This house would be expanded and remodeled over the years to accommodate the growing family. On 6 July 1958 VAL obtained a permit to build rear porch whose estimated cost was \$165.00; on 22 July 1962 a permit was issued to him to have a pool installed by Valley Pools at a cost of \$2,195.00!⁸

Their marriage continued to be a rocky one and ALBERTA left VALENTINE for two weeks in 1953. Taking CRAIG and VALERIE with her, she stayed with her sister DOROTHY in Lawrenceville. Being a devout, if not practicing, Roman Catholic, divorce was not an option available to ALBERTA and she returned to VALENTINE where she stayed for the rest of her life. Their life together appears to have improved after this and VAL was able to pursue his hobby of photography. In the third week of an ongoing photo contest sponsored by Trenton’s *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, VAL was a *Class A* winner with his submission of a photo of his son CRAIG at the beach; announced in the newspaper on 24 June 1956 he won \$5!⁹

He had worked intermittently at the Dayton House Pub owned by his mother and located on the ground floor of the home he grew up in after returning from his tour-of-duty in the South Pacific during World War II. One work day was Monday, 13 June 1955. There, with his brother JACK who was visiting from California, they heard a frantic yell just after midnight from his sister KATHRYN, who lived in the residence above with their mother: she had just spotted a prowler! Dashing outside the brothers managed to spot the prowler just as he dropped off the rooftops to Broad Street and made his getaway.¹⁰ The police spied the man a while later but failed to make an apprehension. His mother withdrew from all operation of the Dayton House and on 28 May 1959 the alcoholic beverage license number C-255 for the Dayton House was transferred from ANNA K SMITH to VAL W. SMITH and PETER P. GURLAND, in partnership, by Trenton Board of Commissioners.¹¹ Close to his sister MARGARET at this time, she and husband

⁶ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 1204, p. 330; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁷ Mercer County Mortgages, vol. 936, p. 115, 18 August 1952, recorded 20 August 1952, paid 20 December 1976; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁸ Trenton Evening Times, 6 July 1958 and 22 July 1962

⁹ Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser, part 3, p 5

¹⁰ “Shot Misses Prowler Flees From Rooftops,” Trenton Evening Times, 14 June 1955, part 1, p 1, c 2

PETE were godparents at the baptism of their son BRIAN. He took over full time operation of the Pub in December 1960 where he remained until 19 November 1962. His decision to leave the Pub, due in part to the late hours required and in part to a job offer from RCA, created dissension in the family. As a partner in the alcoholic beverage license, actions that affected that license affected both partners. ANNA, still owner of the bar, would only pass ownership to a son, or a son and a son-in-law, such as VAL and PETE, but not to a daughter. When VAL decided to end his Pub days, ANNA put the whole thing up for sale – the Pub, the license and the residence. Six months later the home and business was sold. MARGARET and PETE felt they had lost out and may have even filed a lawsuit against ANNA and VAL for losses, or only threatened to do so, after which they supposedly received some of the sale price in compensation of their losses. VAL and MARGARET'S relationship was strained for a number of years after this.

Not forgetting his education completely, he started working part-time as a field engineer for a Radio Corporation of America (RCA) facility based in Cherry Hill, New Jersey on 19 June 1959, less than a month after taking over operation of the Dayton House. He continued at RCA and the Pub for a year and a half, leaving RCA on 1 December 1960.¹² He bid the Pub farewell when RCA offered him a full-time position at their Astro-Electronics Division (AED) at their David Sarnoff Center in Princeton, New Jersey. DAVID SARNOFF was the first wireless operator who had the inkling of an impending disaster when he picked up the distress signal sent by the *Titanic* on the 17th of April in 1912; SARNOFF would go on to be one of the founders of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in the early 1920s. VAL started working there on 19 November 1962, where he helped develop and build RCA's line of defense electronics for the military. Two years later he was offered a better position by International Business Machines (IBM) in East Fishkill, New York. He accepted the position and started there on 6 June 1964. VALENTINE'S community involvement until this time included being a committee chairman for the Cub Scouts between January 1960 and July 1963 when their son ROBERT was involved in that organization. He was also a member of the American Legion Post Number 31 in Yardville, New Jersey starting in June 1950; his involvement ended in April 1964 with his hiring by IBM.

VALENTINE stayed with IBM in East Fishkill for almost two years but decided not to continue for a number of reasons – his last day was 9 May 1966. Among the reasons for not staying was he had no desire to permanently relocate to that area and neither did ALBERTA. Another was that he was involved in a very serious automobile accident, being hit head-on by an 18-wheeled truck at about this time. His car was demolished and pictures of it have the front axle sitting on what is left of the hood. After recovering from the acute injuries, ALBERTA had him transported by ambulance back to Trenton. Over two decades later he had a piece of glass removed from his eye, where it had apparently slid in between the eye and the bone of the socket.

After recovering VAL and ALBERTA travelled to Cocoa Beach, Florida in late spring 1966 for a possible career change. It is thought that VAL was investigating a position in military surveillance at Patrick Air Force Base within the Air Force Technical Application Center (AFTAC) located there. This may indicate his involvement with the Navy program discussed below at an early period than was previously thought to have occurred. For uncertain reasons, one of which was the aggravation of ALBERTA'S rheumatoid arthritis, the job did not materialize.

¹¹ Trenton Evening Times, 30 June 1959, p 21, c 5

¹² Valentine W. Smith, Social Security No. 146-16-0588

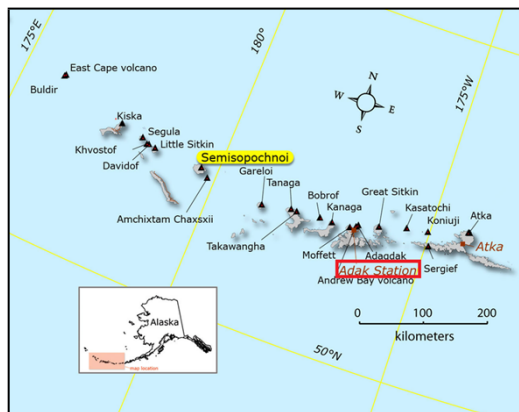
Returning to Trenton, he went into business for himself, opening the King Kone Ice Cream Parlor at 1837 South Broad Street in Hamilton Township, New Jersey which lasted through that summer. Difficulties with maintaining a steady income from that venture, coupled with problems from a New York company of the same name, precipitated the return to the electronics field. He was able to resume working at AED in Princeton until January 1968 when he made a transfer within RCA to their service facility in Cherry Hill. Whether this was the same facility he worked at in 1959/60 or not has yet to be determined. Six months later he left RCA all together and began working at S & M Electric Company, located at the intersection of Stokes and Dover Avenues in Trenton. This position also lasted just six months after which he, once again, returned to RCA in January 1969. He worked at the Naval Air Development Center (NADC) in Johnsville, Pennsylvania. In Johnsville he worked on the development of the *sonobuoys*: under water sound detectors needed to pinpoint the location of submarines. Their development was a function of the success of the U-boat destructive powers during the early years of WW II. In early 1942 “Operation Drumbeat” – a five-month U-boat offensive on the U.S. East coast – was a spectacular success with almost six hundred American ships sunk along the Atlantic coast with a loss of just six U-boats. American military strategy put a dent in this terrifying success rate – the convoy system made every attacking U-boat a target. Military science dented the success rate even further – the development of radar enabled America’s defenders to accurately pinpoint a U-boat – as long as it was on the surface. U-boats usually traveled on the surface where their speed was much greater. A submerged submarine could not be detected by radar but it traveled slowly making it unable to catch an enemy ship and, more importantly, once detected, unable to outmaneuver one. *Sonobuoys* remain an integral part of our military defense program. During his electronics work he had to obtain security clearances from the US Department of Defense in 1963 and 1967, and undoubtedly, again in 1969.¹³ On 21 January 1963 he obtained his first such “secret” clearance after an investigation by *INM* of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A second investigation resulted in a similar clearance being issued on 10 January 1967 with *VALENTINE* listing the investigative agency as both *DCASR* (Defense Contract Administrative Services Region) and *DISCO* (Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office, est. 1 March 1965), of Ohio on his application for a third clearance in January 1969. At the time of this last application, the second clearance was still active.

1967 saw the launch of the Soviet *Victor* class of nuclear attack submarines to augment their older *November* and *Golf-II* classes. Just after midnight in the first minutes of 8 March 1968 the Soviet *Golf-II* class ballistic missile submarine *K-129* sank with three nuclear warheads while on maneuvers in the Pacific Ocean. The Air Force Technical Application Center (AFTAC) tap on the U.S. Navy’s Sound Surveillance System (SOSUS) array that terminated at and was monitored by the Naval Air Station on Adak Island was one of three acoustical points used to pinpoint the location of the onboard explosions that sank the submarine. The United States Navy located the



¹³ Employment and personal information for VW Smith obtained from a draft of the US Department of Defense “Statement of Personal History” form 398, undated – circa January 1969, in possession of author (2009).

sunken sub some 600 nautical miles north of Midway Island in early August of that year after the Soviets failed to find it. *Project Azorian* was the United States secret operation to salvage the sub which would involve the building of the *Hughes Glomar Explorer* under the cover story of HOWARD HUGHES and his search for deep-sea mineral deposits. One of the earliest steps was to create an impenetrable curtain of United States surveillance around the site, to try to block penetration by the superior Soviet submarines and any attempt of the Soviet Navy to interfere with the salvage operation. Though details of *Project Azorian* remain classified state secrets to this day, much has been released and it is clear that VAL could have had a role to play in the unfolding drama, a roll that was cut short by events in Trenton. In early 1971 he was sent to Denver, Colorado for a “special electronics course” followed by a short visit home. In April 1971 VAL headed to the United States Naval Air Facility on Adak Island, Alaska, just missing a 7.2 earthquake that struck the area on the 1st of April. He was assigned to *Project Beartrap* which was tasked with strengthening the military’s underwater surveillance system to detect Soviet submarines.¹⁴ *Project Beartrap* has been continued through 2014 as Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Project K-0416, Airborne Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Intelligence (AAI).¹⁵ VAL returned to Trenton in October or November leaving his presence on Adak on 6 November 1971 in question. On that date, the 5-megaton nuclear device *cannikin* was detonated underground by the United States on Amchitka Island, 125 miles west of Adak; it remains the largest underground test by the United States to this day. Some *experts* thought might cause damage on Adak and other islands in the area so *preparedness training* was mandated for all residents. The extent of the training was being told to *run up the nearest hill* if you see a tidal wave approaching. Not only was the training minimal, so too was the ability of the experts; nothing was felt on the island. However, the decimation of wildlife was greatly underestimated and leaks of radioactive plutonium and americium have been documented as late as 2015. VAL’s security clearance prevented him from disclosing any details of the operation, an oath he kept the rest of his life. It was forty years after the fact that enough of the details of *Project Azorian*



surfaced to underscore, though not prove, his involvement, as much remains classified. A small part of *K-129* was eventually retrieved in 1974. As a testament to the top-secret nature of the project, and the lack of information on the Soviet military, NATO still classifies the *Golf-II* as a non-nuclear attack submarine despite the *K-129* incident. The SOSUS array, costing over \$16 billion, remains active to this day, though, rather than charting the enemy, it is used to help marine biologists understand the sounds of underwater animal life.

ALBERTA worked at various jobs over the years to supplement their income; at various times she was a salesperson at Dunham’s Department Store, a waitress at Blackstone’s Restaurant, an envelope “stuffer,” which I remember quite well,

¹⁴ Valentine W. Smith, Uniform Services Identification and Privilege Card, No. AF0,277,338, USAF Civilian, RCA (AAC Logistics), Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; issued 17 May 1971, expires 1 July 1972.

¹⁵ Airborne Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Intelligence (AAI) (formerly known as Project Beartrap) Support Services, Jun 27, 2014; <https://govtribe.com/project/airborne-anti-submarine-warfare-asw-intelligence-aai-formerly-known-as-project-beartrap-support-services/activity>

and several others. Their marriage continued to be a difficult one and by the 1970s the changes in societal mores and, most importantly, Church doctrine allowed for the possibility of divorce without being excommunicated. ALBERTA started consultation with an attorney but whether the emotional stress of divorce was too great or by coincidence, a divorce was not to happen.

ALBERTA became ill in August 1971 and was hospitalized in Trenton's Saint Francis Hospital during October 1971 where she was finally diagnosed as having systemic lupus erythamatosus. She died at 10:25 am on Monday, 6 December 1971. Her funeral was conducted by the Rogers Funeral Home in Trenton and the Roman Catholic mass was held at Saint Raphael's Roman Catholic Church. She was buried on 9 December 1971 in Section T in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* in the plot next to her mothers. VAL and ALBERTA had bought the plots shortly after DOROTHY MATELENA's death in 1960. ALBERTA wanted to be buried next to her mother, giving the reason as she did not wish to spend eternity being buried "alone" – which proved to be sound foresight as events would have it. Fulfilling this wish however meant contravening the convention of the wife being buried at her husband's left side, a fact that appeared to carry little significance to ALBERTA or VALENTINE. Some eighteen years after her death, family members received a surprise while reading the local newspaper with their morning coffee. In 1997 the local, morning newspaper, *The Trentonian*, featured a pictorial review called "Remember Sport Night" and there was a young ALBERTA, seated on the gymnasium floor of Trenton Central High School with the rest of her squad! LILA CIPRIANO recalled this event in which both of Trenton Central High School's basketball teams, the 'Red' and the 'Black,' played against each other. Each team had their own cheerleading squad. A photo of one of the squads shows ALBERTA¹⁶

VALENTINE remained at NADC (RCA) and raised the family, with tremendous help from VALERIE who assumed the burden of the homemaking job at the age of 19. Seeing the growing family through these first years without ALBERTA, she managed to graduate from Trenton State College and moved to Cincinnati, Ohio for graduate school in 1974.

On Saturday, 13 December 1975, VALENTINE married a second time.¹⁷ His wife was MILDRED DALE CLIVER (born 2 October 1933, south of Bordentown in Hedding, NJ, daughter of HERBERT L. CLIVER and MARY ANNA CHANCE) known as "DALE" to all. Their wedding ceremony took place at home, 684 Independence Avenue. The minister was REVEREND GARY W. HOPE from DALE's church in Columbus. VAL's son ROBERT served as best-man, while TINA, ROBERT's then wife, was the maid-of-honor. They had a brief honeymoon in the Pocono Mountains before returning to their new lives. DALE had never had children, though she had been married twice before, first to THEODER SHEPPARD and second to FRANK MASALSKI. She recalled a time when she was at a county fair as a teenager when she went to a "fortune teller." There she listened as she was told that she would have five children and be married three times. Passing the age of 40, she had the thought "So much for the fortune teller." Little did she realize, that prophesy would come true in two more years.

As for DALE's family:¹⁸ not much is known about her mother MARY A. CHANCE (born 1911, NJ). DALE's father was HERBERT L. CLIVER (born 1905, NJ) and they were married before 1929. In 1930 HERBERT and MARY had one son HERBERT L. CLIVER, JUNIOR (born 1929) and

¹⁶ Lila Cipriano "Remember Sport Night," *The Trentonian*. (Trenton, NJ) 23 August 1977, page 35.

¹⁷ Certificate of Marriage, License No. 75-597, Mercer County, NJ

¹⁸ Information on the Cliver family obtained from US Census returns of 1850, 1860, 1920, 1930 and 1940.

they were living with his parents CHARLES and LEANETTE CLIVER in Hedding, between Bordentown and Florence in Mansfield Township; also living with them is CHARLES and LEANETTE'S adopted daughter IRENE E. ALLEN (born 1907). By 1940 HERBERT, a farm laborer is listed as head-of-household at 151 Old York Road with his parents now living in his house. HERBERT and MARY'S family grew with the addition of: BARBARA M. CLIVER (born 1932), MILDRED D. CLIVER (born 1934), CLIFFORD CLIVER (born 1936) and LESTER W. CLIVER (born 1938); it appears that their first son HERBERT L. CLIVER, JUNIOR had died by this time which is what the author remembers being told by DALE. Also living with them in 1940 is LEANETTE'S brother WILLIAM HERBERT (born 1880) and HERBERT'S brother-in-law JOHN CHANCE (born 1904) from Florence. DALE'S father, HERBERT L. CLIVER, was the son of CHARLES G. CLIVER and LEANETTE HERBERT (born 1876). LEANETTE was the daughter of ABRAM HERBERT (born 1845) and CAROLINE "CARRIE" ERRICKSON (born 1851) from Ocean Township, Monmouth County. LEANETTE had three older siblings: ELVINA (born 1871), LILLIE (born 1872) and JAMES E. HERBERT (born 1874) and one younger one: WILLIAM HERBERT (born 1879). CAROLINE ERRICKSON was the daughter of WILLIAM R. (born 1825) and ELVINA ERRICKSON (born 1828) of Howell Township, Monmouth County. CAROLINE had two older and two younger siblings: MARY E. (born 1848), LYDIA A. (born 1849), ALFRED C. (born 1853) and MATILDA ERRICKSON (born 1856). DALE'S paternal grandfather, CHARLES G. CLIVER (born 1870) and his wife LEANETTE HERBERT lived on the Pemberton to Pointville Road in Pemberton Township in 1910; by 1920 they moved to 160 Second Street, Bordentown. DALE'S mother MARY A. CLIVER died in the 1960s and her father HERBERT married second MARTHA; HERBERT died in the early 1970s and MARTHA was living in Vincentown, NJ when VAL and DALE married.

DALE worked at the Westinghouse light bulb factory in Trenton and continued to do so for another year. VAL retired from RCA in July 1976, and DALE retired around the same time. They enjoyed themselves immensely, taking ballroom dancing lessons, going on camping trips, country western dancing and many other pass times. They decided to move to Florida and spent much of 1978 doing the necessary upkeep to sell a 25-year old home that had seen five children grow up. Their house sold on 16 July 1979, to CHARLES BROADBENT, JUNIOR for \$44,000.00.¹⁹ By this time MELISSA was the only child left living at home.

VAL, DALE and MELISSA left for Florida in July 1979 and lived in the mobile home of VAL'S sister MARGARET in Lantana while their own home was being built. Six months later they were able to move into their new home at 143 Village Circle, Jupiter, Florida, a few miles north of West Palm Beach. VAL'S skills in electronics were in demand and he was hired as a consultant for some company. As a consultant he decided to incorporate as *M.D. Smith, Incorporated*, an electronic contracting corporation. DALE returned to work as well, taking a position in a nursery school which she enjoyed immensely. While at work one day in 1981, she complained of not feeling well shortly before collapsing. She was taken to the hospital where it was discovered she had suffered a cerebral hemorrhagic stroke. An emergency surgical procedure was performed to release the growing pressure as they could not stop the blood flow. Complications from this surgery left her throat paralyzed; she lost her voice as well as the ability to swallow; while the stroke left it very difficult to move around. A lifetime of smoking made her extremely susceptible to pneumonia as well. Once stabilized, she returned to their home to hopefully recuperate. During this time VAL schooled himself in various massage and reflex techniques in

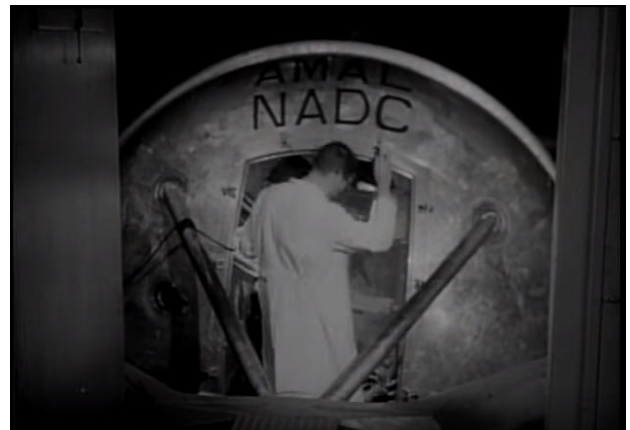
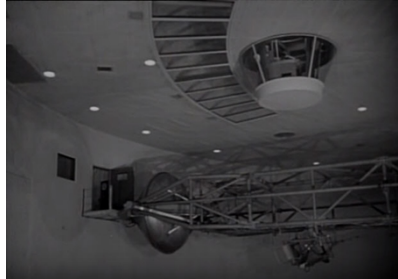
¹⁹ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 2108, p. 196, 16 July 1979, recorded 18 July 1979; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

an effort to help his wife regain some of her lost functions. Unfortunately, after what appeared to be a promising start, DALE lost the will to live and passed away on 7 July 1982. The funeral was conducted by the Village Funeral Home in Jupiter, followed by cremation. VAL spread her ashes according to her previously-expressed desires. Using his newly-learned skills, VAL became a licensed masseur in Florida in 1984 and worked on a select clientele at various resorts.

He married a third time, to JOAN BARBARA ROBBINS (born 4 March 1933 in Manchester, CT; daughter of OTTO and ESTHER NEUBAUER). The ceremony was performed by HAL ROSENCRANS, minister at Unity Church, 1957 South Flagler Drive, Palm Beach on 2 April 1989.²⁰ Witnesses were MARY P. NEUBAUER and RUDOLPH O. NEUBAUER. JOAN was from Manchester, CT and had been married first to DALE MATHER, divorced and married second to ____ ROBBINS, divorced 27 October 1988. She had three sons with her first husband. VAL sold his home in Jupiter and moved into JOAN'S condominium in Tequesta, Florida for a number of years. She worked during the winter months, as a hair stylist in a local salon. They purchased a recreational vehicle and traveled for four to six months a year, alternating between heading north along the Eastern seaboard to visit VALERIE, MELISSA and CRAIG, and heading west to California to visit sons BRIAN and BOB, as well as VAL'S brother JACK. They decided to sell the condominium and move to a house in Hobe Sound on property owned by JOAN'S ex-husband DALE. They lived there until 2003 when they moved in with JOAN'S son STEVE in Juno Beach (North Palm Beach) FL.

VAL was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease around 2000 but remained relatively well until 2005. His condition began deteriorating rapidly in early 2006, necessitating a move to a care facility in May 2006. He passed away on 19 June 2006 which was the 68th anniversary of his first marriage. A memorial service, which included a military salute, was held at Howard-Price Funeral Home, 754 US Highway One, North Palm Beach on Sunday, 9 July 2006. He was cremated and part of his ashes were scattered at sea by his widow JOAN while the rest were buried in the *Saint Mary's Cemetery* (Trenton) plot he had bought with his first wife ALBERTA in 1960. A military marker was placed in the plot in 2007. JOAN continues to live in Juno Beach.

²⁰ Application for Marriage License No. 89-365-N, License No. 89-132115, Palm Beach County, FL



NADC in Johnsville was the location of the human centrifuge where every United States astronaut trained. The facility was open on family day festivities and is a cherished memory of the author – that and his defeat of the 1960s Univac computer at tic-tac-toe.

ISSUE:

- 1) WILLIAM CRAIG SMITH: graduated from Hamilton High School West in 1969 and married KATHY WALSH on 1 May 1971 at Saint Vincent DePaul Roman Catholic Church in Groveville, Mercer County, NJ. They had four children:
 - a) HOLLY PAIGE SMITH: born 20 February 1972; married June 1999 to STAN RILEY, lived in Maryland briefly, returning to Trenton in 2000; they live in Ewing Township.
 - i) JOHN STANLEY RILEY: born and died 28 November 1999, Maryland, interred *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton, NJ
 - ii) STANLEY RILEY, JUNIOR: born 4 November 2001, Trenton, Mercer County NJ
 - b) NICOLE SHANNON SMITH: born 15 July 1973; baptized 4 November 1973 at Saint Anthony's Church, Trenton; married 1 October 1999 to GARY MCCLURE, Yardley, PA, living in Bristol, PA.
 - i) AINSLEY GRACE MCCLURE, born 12 February 2004
 - c) BRADFORD CRAIG SMITH, born 25 January 1976; baptized February 1976 at Saint Anthony's Church, Trenton; married 12 May 2004 to SHERRI BURZACHIELO.
 - i) AUSTIN CRAIG SMITH: born 28 June 2006.
 - ii) JACOB SMITH: born circa November 2007.
 - d) JOEL CHRISTIAN SMITH, born 2 March 1978

CRAIG and KATHY were divorced in 1978. CRAIG married second DONA VUKSON, nee GLENDINNINGH on 23 June 1990. The ceremony was performed on board the *Costa Riviera* at the port in Fort Lauderdale, FL. DONA was born 9 September 1947 to JAMES and GRACE ELIZABETH (SKED) GLENDINNINGH. They lived in Ewing Township. They separated in 1992 and subsequently divorced. CRAIG worked for the NJ Department of Transportation since 1970, retiring from there in 2006; he currently lives in Ewing Township, NJ. On 15 June 2003 he had a commitment ceremony with his girlfriend TONI, in Cape Cod, MA.
- 2) VALERIE JEAN SMITH: graduated from Hamilton High School West in 1970; received a Bachelor's degree in education from Trenton State College in 1974²¹ and completed graduate studies leading to a Master's degree in pharmacy from the University of Cincinnati. She married MICHAEL JOHN TRENTMAN at Saint John's Roman Catholic Church in West Chester, Ohio on 21 October 1989. She is a pharmacist and they live in Liberty Township, a suburb of Cincinnati, Ohio.
 - a) REBECCA JEAN TRENTMAN: born 23 July 1990, Cincinnati, Ohio. Doctorate of Pharmacology, University of Cincinnati. Married BRANDON MICHAEL NOTAR, son of DANIEL NOTAR, on 7 October 2017 at Saint John the Evangelist Church, West Chester, Ohio.
 - i) ELEANOR JEAN NOTAR: born 14 February 2020, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 - b) ELIZABETH MARIE TRENTMAN: born 30 July 1991, Cincinnati, Ohio.

²¹ "2 Area Women Given Degrees," *The Evening Times*, 16 July 1974, page 18B, column 3.

- 3) ROBERT JOSEPH SMITH: graduated from Hamilton High School West in 1973; married 9 August 1975 to MARY CHRISTINA “TINA” DEGLIUMBERTO at Saint Raphael's Roman Catholic Church in Trenton, no children, divorced in 1977. ROBERT graduated from Los Angeles College of Chiropractic in April 1980 with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree. He has lived in Santa Cruz, CA since 1982. He has a daughter by SHELLY OVERHULSER. SHELLY passed away in 2003.
- a) TABITHA OVERHULSER: born 18 July 1978.
- 4) BRIAN ALBERT SMITH: Birth was announced in the *Trenton Evening Times* on 6 September 1959.²² He was baptized at Saint Raphael's Church with MARGARET and PETE GURLAND as godparents; 9 November 1970 confirmed at same church with sponsor being LOUIS MAKRANCY; graduated from Hamilton High School West in 1977. Lives in Orlando, Florida and is a Doctor of Chiropractic. Narrative continued in separate file.
- 5) MELISSA DOROTHY “MISSY” SMITH: baptized at Saint Raphael's Church with JOSEPH and PAT SMITH as godparents. She lived Jupiter, FL from 1978 to 1990, interrupted by three years in Incline Village, NV between 1981 and 1984. She was married in a private ceremony to JOSEPH P. NOLAN on 28 January 1991 at Kona Village Resort in Kona, Hawaii. They had a wedding ceremony for friends and family on 17 March 1991 aboard the showboat *Empress of Palm Beach* from Singer Island, Palm Beach County, FL. They moved north, first to Lancaster, PA and currently in Kennett Square, PA, south of Philadelphia.
- a) SARA MELISSA NOLAN: born 6 August 1992, Lancaster, PA.
- b) ERIN VERONICA NOLAN: born 18 September 1994, Kennett Square, PA.
- c) ANNA MADELENA NOLAN: born 28 June 2000, Kennett Square, PA.
- d) CATHERINE ROSA NOLAN: born 29 January 2003, Kennett Square, PA.

²² Trenton Evening Times, 6 September 1959, p 26

Husband's Name: **ALBERT JOSEPH "COUNT" MATELENA**

Born: 5 February 1896 New York, New York County, New York¹
Married: 9 November 1922 Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland
Died: 8 October 1981 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Buried: *Saint Mary's Cemetery* Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey

Father: GIUSEPPA MADDALENA (18 March 1854 to 2 August 1925)
Mother: MARIA CONCETTA SACCO (9 February 1861 to 26 September 1943)

Wife's Name: **DOROTHY RUTH SOUTHARD**

Born: 17 January 1907 Bordentown, Burlington County, New Jersey
Died: 12 November 1960 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Buried: *Saint Mary's Cemetery* Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey

Father: JOHN LAWRENCE SOUTHARD (12 July 1879 to 23 October 1911)
Mother: ELIZABETH R. PARKER (5 October 1882 to 22 January 1932)

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) DOROTHY ELIZABETH MATELENA	18 August 1924	Trenton, Mercer County, NJ
2) MARIE ROSE MATELENA	6 April 1926	Trenton, Mercer County, NJ
3) ALBERTA JEAN MATELENA	4 February 1929	Trenton, Mercer County, NJ

They were married on the 9th of November, 1922 by the Minister D.F. LOCKERBIE in Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton was a well-known destination for those wanting a quick wedding, with little questions asked. A great article entitled "Elkton, Marry-land" by MARSHALL S. BERDAN, appeared in *The Washington Post*, on 13 February 2002:

...during its heyday in the '20s and '30s, when the Little Wedding Chapel on East Main Street was just one of 15 private chapels and Elkton was the elopement capital of the East Coast. Today, however, the chapel, housed in its two-story, 200-year-old stone building, is the only one left. Its neighbors are all law offices and bail bondsmen.

And two hours is about all it takes to do the traditional Elkton thing. It all started in 1913 when Delaware passed mandatory matrimonial waiting and public notification laws. Meanwhile Maryland -- the "Free State" -- imposed neither waiting period nor residency requirement.

As the most northeasterly county seat in Maryland, Elkton became the roadside chapel of choice for those who chose to marry in haste from throughout the Northeast. From just over 100 marriages per year at the turn of the century, tiny Elkton was soon cranking out well over 10,000 newlyweds a year -- the vast

¹ Birth Registration of UMBERTO MADDALENA and Military Registration Card of ALBERT MATELENA, No. 146, 29-3-33A, 5 June 1917; Federal Archives and Records Center, 1557 St. Joseph Ave., East Point, Ga. 30344

majority from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania -- during the 1920s and '30s. It became known as "America's Gretna Green."

What Maryland did require, though, was a church service. Thus sprang into business Elkton's notorious parcel of "marrying parsons," who, for a few bucks, would gladly tie a quick knot. In those days, the train and bus stations were staked out by aggressive cabbies, who scoured arrivals for those tell-tale sheepish looks, and then pounced with offers for special "package deals."

It was a convenience that even the mighty took advantage of. Smith remembers the October evening in 1928 when her aunt rushed to the train station to pick up band leader Glenn Miller and his fiancée. Alas, despite the courthouse's 7 p.m. closing time, they were five minutes too late to get their license, and the Millers-to-be were forced to return to New York empty-fingered.

Elkton's 25-year bridal end-run came to a screeching halt in 1938 when the state's elected officials, embarrassed by the tawdry spectacle that Elkton had become, sponsored a statewide referendum mandating a 48-hour waiting period.

Though Cecil County voted overwhelmingly against it, the measure passed, and the last of Elkton's few-questions-asked hitchings took place on Dec. 7, 1938.

While most states had increased the age when marriage could be entered into without parental consent from 12 to 16, the age of consent laws of Maryland remained 12 for females and 14 for males through 1938. In addition, there was no waiting period or publication of banns required.

It is thought that DOROTHY'S young age of fifteen may have figured into this decision. ALBERT'S brother, JOHN and his wife JOSEPHINE accompanied them on the train trip and it is assumed, were their witnesses. For their honeymoon, ALBERT and DOROTHY continued south on a train to Miami Beach, Florida and, from there, on to Havana, Cuba, returning to Trenton after six weeks. This would be a trip that was repeated several times over the years; one which DOROTHY came to dislike as they met up with many of ALBERT'S business associates who traveled with their girlfriends. The COUNT was the exception bringing his wife who knew both the wives and the girlfriends which made her terribly uncomfortable.² It is not certain that, at this early time, her dislike figured into their honeymoon trip or not.

After marrying, they first lived above the Little Gem Restaurant at 318 North Broad Street where ALBERT worked. The Little Gem faced Battle Monument Park in the same neighborhood where both ALBERT and DOROTHY lived. In 1923 ALBERT is listed as a "fruit dealer" at this address with no mention of an eatery but was back to working in the restaurant at this address in 1924.³ Records conflict about whether or not ALBERT

² JEFF NABINGER, e-mail to author, 20 December 1999.

³ Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1923, pp.114, 619; 1924 p.701; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

worked for his nephew at the Little Gem or owned the place. In November 1924 ALBERT advertised the restaurant for sale or lease in the *Trenton Times*, naming himself as owner. ALBERT made a statement to the Bureau of Veteran's Affairs that he worked for his "nephew" at the restaurant but left because of the "low pay and he did not like to be confined."⁴ They rented a semidetached home at 13 Fountain Avenue, for \$45.00 a month, where they resided until May 1924. While there, they sublet the upstairs of the house to JOHN and JOSEPHINE MATELENA for \$25.00 a month. ALBERT's father claims to have owned this property but no deed has been found to confirm this. The structure was a three-story, semi-detached home built in 1891. With his father's health deteriorating, ALBERT assumed some of the responsibilities of the family fruit market at 421 Princeton Avenue. Around May 1924, they moved in with DOROTHY's mother, ELIZABETH VANKIRK, at 1620 South Broad Street. By November 1924, they had moved back to the same building in the old neighborhood, living in the other half at 15 Fountain Avenue.⁵ This was probably a cost-saving move as a statement of ALBERT's parents made to the Veteran's Administration mentions a "board bill" of \$650.00, a high figure, after living with his mother-in-law for just six months. This Fountain Avenue address is also where ALBERT's sister JULIA and her husband SALVERIO DEFILLIPPO (SAMUEL DEFILLIPS) lived. Their daughter DOROTHY's birth announcement, published 31 August 1924, states that they were living at 318 North Broad Street at the time which places the timeframe they lived at 1620 South Broad Street in question.⁶ That same month, ALBERT wrote a letter to the Veteran's Administration in which he stated that both his wife and daughter were seriously ill and that his wife "is under doctor's care and may be so for a few weeks."⁷ Conversation with DOROTHY NABINGER confirms that as an infant she had "double pneumonia" and her mother had "a spot on her lung" so they went to the Chesterfield farm of DOROTHY's grandmother, MARY SOUTHARD where they stayed to recuperate for six months.⁸

By 1925, he started working for BEN NAPLES of the Equitable Benefit Association as an insurance agent. In October 1925 they moved to 749 Hamilton Avenue, staying there until January 1926 at least. Their first years of married life were ones of frequent moves; they had no-less than five homes: 318 North Broad Street at first; 13 Fountain Avenue, 1620 South Broad Street and 15 Fountain Avenue in 1924 and then the Hamilton Avenue address by their third wedding anniversary.



Stability took over and we find them living at 851 Spruce Street, in North Trenton's Eighth ward, between 1926 and 1937.⁹ This two-story brick building between

⁴ Records of Veteran's Administration, Bayonne, NJ of ALBERT MATELENA.

⁵ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1925, p.648; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

⁶ "Birth Announcements" *Trenton Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 31 August 1924, part 2, page 3, column 5.

⁷ Records of Veteran's Administration, Bayonne, NJ of ALBERT MATELENA.

⁸ Conversations with WILLIAM Smith, Jan. 1986, Glendale, CA; MARIE NABINGER, August 1986, Trenton, NJ; and DOROTHY NABINGER, November 1997, Trenton, NJ

⁹ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1926, p.667; 1927, p.658; 1928, p.670; 1929, p.689; 1930, p.682; 1931,

Princeton and Brunswick Avenues was owned by PHILOMENA PACE who lived next door at 853 Spruce Street. It had been built in 1916 and was listed as a two-unit dwelling, with six rooms on the ground floor and eight on the second.¹⁰ Shortly after moving ALBERT'S mother came to live with them for a short time before moving next door to live with PHILOMENA. Army records indicate 1929 was ALBERT'S most successful financial year, making between \$6000.00 and \$8000.00. In 1930 he returned to work in the produce market on Brunswick Avenue and started operating a "café" there and he would continue to do so until 1934 at least.¹¹ The 1930 census lists ALBERT as the proprietor of a restaurant. At the time of the enumeration, he was paying \$37.00 a month rent for living space on the second floor of the Spruce Street home; two other couples lived in the same building: MICHAEL and ANGELINA NASILE and JOSEPH and MARY PETTIGIARO.¹²

Shortly before 1 pm on 13 January 1931 ALBERT was held up by masked bandits while putting his car in his garage and robbed of \$525.00.¹³ MICHAEL "DAYLIGHT" TRAMANTANA and CARL "PIPPY" IPPOLITO, notorious Trenton-area crime figures, were charged with the crime and pled not guilty on 7 July. According to Mercer County Prosecutor ERWIN E. MARSHALL the case was hampered by ALBERT who repudiated his testimony and the case was dropped. However, if ALBERT thought law enforcement was wrong, and they were definitely after these two and known to bend the rules where pesky things like evidence are concerned, repudiating his testimony was called for. It's telling that he did not recant his testimony, but repudiated it – meaning that his additional testimony made it clear that the police had arrested the wrong guys. TRAMANTANA was one of six criminals that successfully evaded the law profiled in the *Trenton Times* in December 1931.¹⁴ TRAMANTANA'S alleged criminal activities included assaulting JOHN "APPLE" ANEBITE in a racketeering feud, stealing a truck full of liquor in November 1931, attacking several numbers racketeers on 5 August 1932, hijacking another truck

p.564; 1932, p.537; 1933, p.524; 1934, p.509; 1935, p.502; 1936, p.493; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ. 1932 and various other cases involving

¹⁰ Tax Assessor's Department, City of Trenton, number 38, 851 Spruce Street, 16 March 1930, at Trenton Public Library, Academy St., Trenton, NJ.
¹¹ Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1926, p.667; 1927, p.658; 1928, p.670; 1929, p.689; 1930, p.682; 1931, p.564; 1932, p.537; 1933, p.524; 1934, p.509; 1935, p.502; 1936, p.493; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

¹² 1930 U.S. Census (Free Schedule) Mercer County, N.J., City of Trenton, 8th Ward, 2 April 1930, sheet 2A, Enumeration District 11-32, dwelling 24, families 24 - 26, lines 17-30.

¹³ "Two Surrender to Police on \$525 Holdup Charge," *Trenton Evening Times*, 30 April 1931, part 1, page 1, column 1.

¹⁴ "Crime Figures have Escaped Clutch of Law By Loopholes," *Trenton Evening Times*, 21 December 1931, part 1, page 1, column 2 and page 20, column 4.

ALBERT advertised the opening of his Tyger Inn for Friday, the 28th of July, 1933 in local newspapers.¹⁵ Named as such, he escaped legal entanglements with the well-established Tiger Inn of nearby Princeton University which opened in 1890. How he came to own this business is not certain but, due to a new federal law in 1932, he was eligible to borrow up to one-half of the pay owed him by the government for his military service, about \$450.00. This very well could have been what he used to bank-roll the business venture. The Inn was behind a nursery, now Peterson's Landscape Nursery, at Cox's Corner near the intersection of Province Line and Lawrenceville-Princeton (Route 206) Roads. Cox's Corner straddled the county line, a reflection of Keith's Line which once separated East Jersey from West as indicated by its' name; the Inn was on the eastern side in Princeton Township,



Middlesex County while, less than a quarter-mile away, and over the Line, was Lawrence Township in Mercer County. The area was notorious for automobile accidents judging from the frequency with which they were reported in Trenton area newspapers. The Inn offered *Free Spaghetti Dinners & Dancing with FRANK WHITE'S ORCHESTRA* every evening with *No Cover Charge and No Minimum*.¹⁶ On August 2nd we find the 25-cent *Special Cold Chicken Sandwich and a Glass of Beer* with P. ALBANO as the Master of Ceremonies (M.C.) and a *Big Floor Show Featuring Those Personality Girls LORRAINE SISTERS with Plenty of Dance Music by Originalities Orchestra*.¹⁷ Two weeks later, residents were exhorted to come *For A Roaring Good Time* and hear *JOE MURPHY* performing with *MIKE SPRANZA & His Tyger Cubs*.¹⁸ *LITTLE JOE SPECTOR* took over as M.C. by October 30th with a *New Floor Show Featuring Lona Oh Lona* with music by local orchestra leader *PAUL REIMAN* and a dinner special of *Deviled Crab Platter*.¹⁹ Both SPECTOR and MURPHY were well-known from Trenton's radio station, WOAX, where the former was "*The Singing Troubadour*" and the latter was "*Trenton's baritone*."²⁰ SPECTOR was known for being the Marathon Entertainer when he kept the dancer's moving during a 500+ hour marathon at Woodlawn Park in May 1932.²¹ The November 8th ad stated *A Real Peppy Band; Large Dance Floor, Good Food [and] Plenty of Entertainment with a 25-cent Hot Platter and a Beer*.²²

¹⁵ *Trenton Evening Times*, 27 July 1933, page 18, column 3.

¹⁶ *Trenton Evening Times*, 29 July 1933, page 10, column 1.

¹⁷ *Trenton Evening Times*, 2 August 1933, page 14, column 1.

¹⁸ *Trenton Evening Times*, 16 August 1933, page 18, column 1.

¹⁹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 28 October 1933, page 15, column 2 and 30 October 1933, page 4, column 2.

²⁰ *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 4 September 1932, part 1, page 4, column 7.

²¹ "Marathon Entertainer," *Trenton Evening Times*, 7 May 1932, page 8, column 5.

No proprietor is named after July 1933 which makes it difficult to know for certain how long ALBERT was involved. Perhaps the remoteness of the location wasn't ideal for business, assuming that business was dinner and dancing, as the last ad in the *Trenton Times* for the Tyger Inn was on November 11th and it does not appear that another dance hall opened here.²³ When Court Recorder BOSCARELLI gave the Count a sharp warning and ordered him to pay \$2.00 in court costs for failing to give the right of way to fire apparatus in December 1933, it doesn't seem he was in a hurry to get to the Tyger Inn!²⁴

Columbus Elementary School beckoned before too long. At the time the school was at 643 Indiana Avenue on the southwest corner at Olden Avenue. The school moved to 1200 Brunswick Avenue at Mulberry Street and the old building was sold to Saint Hedwig's Roman Catholic Church and became that institution's parochial school. DOROTHY started kindergarten at Columbus in 1929, MARIE in 1931 and ALBERTA in 1934. During the Depression years, daughter MARIE remembers her mother taking in laundry to help make ends meet. She recalls large oblong basins on the stove-top and her mother stirring the clothes and soap with large wooden paddles.²⁵ DOROTHY MATELENA appears in the summer 1933 Bell Telephone Directory at 851 Spruce Street with the telephone number TR3-1603.²⁶ ALBERT was later employed as an insurance salesman for Colonial Insurance. According to his daughters DOROTHY and MARIE he ran a produce market near the intersection of Lawrence Road (Route 206) and Franklin Corner Road in Lawrenceville for a short time.²⁷



It was during this period that the Delaware and Raritan Canal was closed to commercial traffic (1932), filled in, paved over and became the Trenton Freeway, commonly called Route 1, in 1936. The Canal Feeder, going right through downtown, remained intact, though neglected until recent years. New Jersey Transit's River Line follows the canal that we used to walk along behind White City Lake to Bordentown and beyond.

²² *Trenton Evening Times*, 8 November 1933, page 20, column 4.

²³ *Trenton Evening Times*, 10 November 1933, page 16, column 1.

²⁴ *Trenton Evening Times*, 27 December 1933, page 12, column 7.

²⁵ MARIE NABINGER, Trenton, NJ, conversation with author on 23 November 1997.

²⁶ NJ Bell Telephone Directory, Summer 1933, p.39; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

²⁷ Marie Nabinger, telephone conversation with author, 19 October 1985 (and) Dorothy Nabinger, telephone conversation with author, 9 March 1986.

As mentioned, the owner of 851 Spruce Street was PHILOMENA PACE who lived next door. On 28 June 1937 the Home Owner's Loan Corporation sued *FILOMENA PAGE* to foreclose a mortgage on the property. Being a tenant, ALBERT is listed as one of the defendants along with ANGELINE and MICHAEL NASILE, JOSEPHINE and JOSEPH BOSSO, HENRY J. KOHLER, and the State of New Jersey.²⁸ They moved to 22 Cavell Avenue, between Brunswick and Princeton Avenues in the old neighborhood, in August of 1937, perhaps as a result of the foreclosure.²⁹ This two-story frame house was built in 1924 (pictured left).³⁰ The 16 homes on Cavell were a semi-detached Dutch Colonial design, each with a stained-glass window in the front room. Separated from the front room by a wide archway was the dining room which ended at the staircase to the second floor. Beyond this was the kitchen which opened on to the backyard. Three bedrooms and the bathroom with a pedestal sink and claw-foot bath tub constituted the second floor. The middle bedroom held the doorway of the entrance to the third floor attic.³¹ The 6-room house was listed for sale for \$3,750 in May 1937.³² In 1938 he is listed as a huckster in the city directory.³³ His application for a social security number, dated 5 May 1939, states he was employed by Sunkist Market at 1675 Princeton Avenue at Vermont Avenue, between Spruce Street and Lanning Avenue, since April 1939.³⁴

CAVELL AVENUE

Cavell Avenue recalls the name of Edith Cavell, the English war nurse who was executed by the Germans in October, 1915, on the charge of aiding in the escape of British prisoners. Cavell Street was opened and developed by Samuel Hilton.

Source: "HOW STREETS OF TRENTON OBTAINED PRESENT NAMES" from the Vertical Files of the *Trentonian* Collection at the Trenton Public Library; their source is given as the State Gazette, Sept. 1933 - Jan. 1934 <http://trentonhistory.org>

In 1936, their daughter DOROTHY, entered 7th grade at Trenton Junior High School Number 1 (opened 1916) on the northeast corner of Princeton Avenue and Southard Street; the move to Cavell Street did not require a change of schools. It isn't clear which elementary school ALBERTA, entering 3rd grade in 1937, and MARIE, entering 6th grade, would go to – there were two nearby schools: the closest was the ten room addition to Junior 5 at 440 North Montgomery Street and Holland Avenue built in the "late 1930s." This school, Lincoln Elementary, was across Brunswick Avenue from their home so it may not have covered their student district and it was a "colored" school as was Junior 5, aka "New Lincoln School." Most likely they went to Jefferson Elementary

²⁸ Mercer County Lis Pendens, vol.14, page 194, 28 June 1937; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

²⁹ Information on the residences obtained through court records of a lawsuit filed by DOROTHY MATELENA against ANDREW J. DUCH, Mayor of Trenton, et. al.; Hughes Justice Complex, CN 971, Trenton, NJ

³⁰ Tax Assessment Document, City of Trenton, 22 Cavell St.; at Trenton Public Library, Academy St., Trenton, NJ.

³¹ ERIK N. PYONTEK, *When the World was Young Book One of Cavell Avenue Memoirs* (Twining Press, Minneapolis, MN; 2015) pp. 89 – 91.

³² *Trenton Evening Times*, 4 April 1937

³³ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1938, p.506; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

³⁴ Application for Social Security Number 155-10-8794 and 146-26-4083; ALBERT JOSEPH MATELENA and JOSEPH ALBERT MATELENA; Social Security Administration, Central Records, Baltimore, MD 21201

School at 411 Brunswick Avenue at the northwest corner with Southard Street; though it was slightly farther away, it did not require the girls to cross busy Brunswick Avenue to get to class. Jefferson opened in 1873 and was first located at the long-gone intersection of Southard and Jefferson Streets; in 1905 a second Jefferson opened a few blocks west on Southard at Brunswick Avenue; it and was enlarged in 1923; it was rebuilt in the 1990s and renamed the Martin Luther King, Jr. School. Two other schools in the immediate area were too far to serve Cavell Avenue students: Monument at 145 Pennington Avenue (the second of three bearing this name opened in 1932 at Calhoun Street) and the Joseph Wood School (opened 1844, new building 1850, remodeled 1891 and now Trenton Public Library) on Academy Street which ALBERT's younger brother JOHN attended (off North Broad Street above State Street; Livingston Elementary, formerly the Rose Street School on Middle Rose Street opened in 1870, just two blocks away, would have been the closest of all except for the fact it was closed in 1932 and it was a "colored" school); the fact that the family was in Junior 1's district, despite Junior 5 being closer, favors Jefferson which was near Junior 1 over the "colored" Lincoln which was part of Junior 5. MARIE entered 7th grade at Junior 1 in 1938 and ALBERTA followed in 1941. The original Junior 1 building was standing, though vacant, in 2011. In September 1939 Dorothy started High School at the second building at Hamilton and Chestnut Avenues.

In addition to his legitimate business, ALBERT was also involved in "running numbers" and, as story goes, had an incinerator in the basement to burn any evidence in the event of a police raid, a not-too-infrequent occurrence.³⁵ Another family story concerning the Count involves him being a gambler: "At Pete's Steakhouse, he took bets on horses and anything people would bet."³⁶ While these two anecdotes show ALBERT as a small time operator in some betting schemes, in truth he was much more.³⁷

Trenton's tough saloon rules – music and floor shows had to end by 9:30 pm (except Saturday) while all bars and saloons had to close by 11:00 pm every day while "Blue Laws" kept everything closed on Sundays – promoted the formation of private social clubs wherein serious gambling, card playing and drinking was the rule. One of the best-known was the *Peerless Club* on Hudson Street (then called Jenny Street) between Genesee Street and South Clinton Avenue, in the shadow of the John A. Roebling & Sons factory buildings. Operated by New York's "ENGLISH TOMMY" for a 5% cut, the craps tables alone accommodated up to 50 players. After only a run of a few years, ENGLISH TOMMY was able to leave town with more than \$200,000.00 in earnings which translates into a profit of \$4 million for the clubs owners over the same period –

³⁵ Conversations with WILLIAM SMITH, Jan. 1986, Glendale, Ca.; MARIE NABINGER, August 1986, Trenton, NJ; and DOROTHY NABINGER, November 1997, Trenton, NJ

³⁶ JOHN MATELENA, interviewed by AILEEN DOREMUS, Activity director, Lawrenceville Nursing Home; reported to author in a letter dated 15 March 1995.

³⁷ All of the information about the Gem Social Club was obtained from the following sources:

Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser, 11 December 1938, page 1, column 5; *Trenton Evening Times*, 12 December 1938, page 1, column 2; 13 December 1938, page 1, column 1; 16 December 1938, page 1, column 1; 19 December 1938, page 1, column 1; 16 January 1939, page 1, column 7; 17 January 1939, page 1, column 7; 18 January 1939, page 1, column 3; 27 January 1939, page 1, column 6; and *Trenton State Gazette* 13 December 1938, page 1, column 2; 14 December 1938, page 1, column 6; 17 December 1938, page 5, column 1; 20 December 1938, page 4, column 1; 17 January 1939, page 1, column 1; 18 January 1939, page 1, column 1; 19 January 1939, page 2, column 3; 28 January 1939, page 1, column 4.

small wonder that such an endeavor was appealing to young entrepreneurs such as Grandpop! Other such establishments that ALBERT was undoubtedly familiar with as they were in the Battle Monument area were the *Maple Club* at 302 Brunswick Avenue and the *Five Points Social Club* at 108 North Brunswick Avenue.

While the city boasted 97 churches in 1910, its saloons numbered two more than three times that number at 293! The restrictive laws, designed to limit the bars, in fact served to increase their number. The working man could only go out for a couple hours and had to be close to a bar. But with their Sundays free, they were not as rushed to get to church and this enforced-relaxation was reflected in the lower number and greater size of the area churches in comparison to the local watering-holes.

Gambling wasn't limited to the private clubs though – several local horse-trotting tracks held their own. There were two in Ewing: the Ewing Track was behind the Cross Keys Tavern at Ewingville and Pennington Roads while the Trenton Driving Park, a half-mile oval track, opened in 1892 on Scotch Road, probably at Parkway Avenue though the source consulted says both were on Pennington Road which is unlikely as Scotch Road does not intersect with Pennington Road. Others included the Interstate Fair Horse Races which opened on Nottingham Way in 1888 drawing crowds as large as 100,000. The Eagle Racetrack was a fourth such venue and it adjoined the Eagle Tavern at South Broad and Ferry Streets. While the Interstate, later State, Fairgrounds racetrack was in operation when the Count was, it is not yet known if the others were. Betting on the races did not necessarily involve horses either – foot races were regularly announced in area newspapers – and as the 19th century drew to a close, bicycle races grew in popularity. The dawn of the 20th century saw the advent of another race to bet on – auto races were added to the annual offerings of the Interstate Fair while Trenton's Mercer Automobile held try-outs, a euphemism for race, on their dirt track in Hamilton Township. And these are only those racing events in Trenton and the immediate vicinity – let us not forget the New Egypt Speedway, the Freehold Racetrack and the many others, both near and far, that made for a betting populace on any given day which provided for a relatively steady income for those willing to take the risk to satisfy the demand.

Team sports flourished which allowed for many bets to be waged – baseball, soccer, football and basketball vied with the canoe club races for a piece of the betting action available to all Trentonians. Betting on the hometown team meant the Trenton Atlantics baseball team during the roaring 1920s though very little information is available on this team. (Between 1907 and 1914 the city was represented by the Trenton Tigers minor league baseball team.) The American Basketball League was represented by the Royal (Trenton) Bengals in the late-1920s, the Trenton Moose briefly in the mid-1930s (at which time the Trenton Bengals was based in the Bronx) while the Trenton Tigers played from 1941 until 1950. The Atlantics, a victim of the stock market crash of 1929, was followed by the Trenton Senators in the late-1930s and, in the postwar economic boon, by the Trenton Packers in the early-1940s, the Trenton Spartans in 1945 and the Trenton Giants (of which Willie Mays was the most famous team member) in the late 1940s & '50s which fell by the wayside as Trenton's downward economic spiral that began in the early 1950s accelerated through the 1960s. (As government got bigger, so did their buildings, with the loss of property tax revenue to the city being one of the major causes of the city's downfall during these

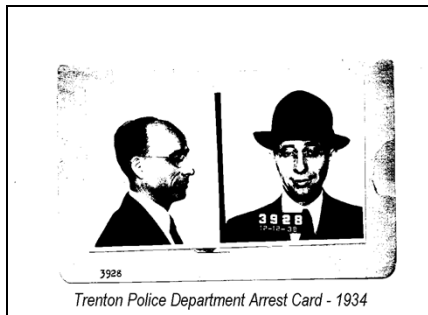
decades. As property tax levels increased to make up for the loss due to government construction, the industries that were stung the most looked at their antiquated factories, mostly in undesirable neighborhoods and, with good reason, pulled up stakes and moved elsewhere) As a sequel, though the days of the Count are long gone, betting for (or against) Trenton's baseball team rose in the 1990s like the proverbial phoenix, this incarnation bearing the name Trenton Thunder, a Double-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, which is continuing strong as we enter the second decade of the 21st century as the American Minor League Baseball champions in 2007, 2008 and 2013. The Trenton Devils/Titans minor league hockey team ceased operation in 2013 while indoor football suffering through two dismal seasons: Trenton Lightning in 2001 and Trenton Steel in 2011.

In post-WWI Trenton, gambling had become big business. Trenton was associated with the Philadelphia family either directly or indirectly through that family's relationship with the Newark family. The Newark family was run by GASPARE D'AMICO until 1937 but it is not known if the Count had any face-to-face dealings with D'AMICO. There were several large operators in Trenton and, according to then Police Chief CAPTAIN WILLIAM A. DOOLING, ALBERT was the "kingpin" of Trenton's illegal gambling establishment. Local folklore relate the WW II era story of a meeting between city officials and "powerful gangland leaders" whereby it was agreed that gambling establishments would be allowed to thrive as long as prostitution was restricted to operating from private houses in a "a few downtown blocks." This was the apparent solution to the possible spread of gambling and prostitution caused by the influx of servicemen from nearby Fort Dix envisioned by city leaders that would threaten the family-oriented downtown.

After returning from fighting in France, ALBERT found little to his liking in Trenton in the way of careers. He liked the latest fashions and the biggest cars and he was not about to be able to afford that on a barber's salary, nor an insurance agent's, as far as he was concerned. Besides, neither was "flashy" which seemed to draw the Count like a magnet. It can be surmised that ALBERT continued his betting activities that apparently started on board ship while he was in the Army, but may have started earlier. Through the 1920s he must have built himself a reputation as a fair bookie, one with class no less. By the early 1930s, perhaps earlier, he expanded into horse race betting. While horse race tracks were not illegal in the State, betting on the races was illegal. 'Gratuity' payments were sometimes made at a small café called Hubby Cooper's behind the Moose Auditorium located where East State Street intersected with Canal Street near the old Armory.³⁸ Strictly speaking, a bookmaker would calculate the odds of a horse winning and only take bets on horses that were not favored to win. In practice, bookies used odd sheets prepared by others, some by professionals and others not. Using an odds sheet from a disreputable source could cost the bookie plenty.

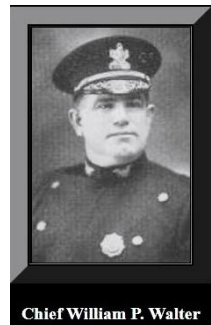


³⁸ JEFF NABINGER (see note 2).



ALBERT's first brush with the law involving gambling came when he was arrested on 1st of May 1934. He was charged with operating a horse race track pool/ maintaining a disorderly house. Patrolmen W[illiam L] MEYER (patrolman since 1927) and M[ichael] O'BRIEN (patrolman since 1924) raided a second-floor apartment

on North Warren Street where they seized "a number of charts and other paraphernalia used in book-making."³⁹ Three material witnesses were also arrested: CHARLES MCCABE of Hamilton Square, JOHN J. FRANCKOWIAK of Home Avenue and JOSEPH VINCE of Princeton Avenue; all three were released from custody on their own recognizance. ALBERT entered a "not guilty" plea in Police Court the following day was released on \$1000.00 bail (\$500.00 according to the *Trenton Times*) and waited in limbo for four years before the Grand Jury dismissed the charges on 12 June 1938.⁴⁰ This dismissal could have been due to WILLIAM P. WALTER, Trenton's Chief-of-Police since 1 September 1925; he had a penchant for accepting bribes for which he was convicted in 1935. The dismissal could have been a function of the new Police Chief, CAPTAIN WILLIAM A. DOOLING's war on gambling. The address given in the newspaper is 302 North Warren Street but this would place the building in Battle Monument Park, it was reported wrong; the nearest even-numbered building, then and now, is 264. A likely possibility is 232 North Warren Street where ALBERT's brother FRANK lived with his wife. FRANK would be implicated in some future gambling problems involving ALBERT.



ALBERT had help in keeping under the radar and one step ahead of the law – he had an 'in' with law enforcement. His wife's sister MARION was married to DANNY NAPLES and DANNY had a brother, FRANK, who was conveniently placed as a detective for the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office.⁴¹ After the North Warren Street location, ALBERT opened his next one on Lanning Avenue, just south of Brunswick Circle. This was just outside Trenton city limits in Lawrence Township which may have affected his choice of location. It was also convenient, being only a few blocks from his Spruce Street home; he had a telephone installed with an unlisted number under the name "MR. H.A. MATELENA." This phone will surface again.

Coinciding with the move to Cavell Avenue in August 1937, ALBERT opened his next location, the *Gem Social Club*, at 17 East Front Street in downtown Trenton during that same summer. Around this time, STEFANO "STEVE" BADAMI had taken over as head of the New Jersey family and, under the direction of New York mobster MEYER LANSKY, small gambling joints evolved into large, and sometimes swanky, gambling parlors in the 1930s. The *Gem* was located on the second floor of a commercial building between

³⁹ "Trentonian Held for Horse-Racing Pool," *Trenton Evening Times*, 1 May 1934, page 1, column 6 and "Trentonian Is Nabbed For Horse Race Betting," 2 May 1934, page 9, column 7; and Annual Report, [Trenton] Bureau of Police, 1932, "Classification of Officers," pp. 4 – 5, available at: http://trentonpdhistory.org/Annual_Reports/1932/.

⁴⁰ Arrest Record No. 3928, City of Trenton, NJ, Bureau of Police.

⁴¹ Jeff Nabinger, conversation with author, 23 April 2019.

South Broad and South Montgomery Streets and one wonders if the choice of the name was connected with the *Little Gem* restaurant of years earlier. The building was built in 1925 and measured one hundred feet on the street side and was twenty-five feet deep. It was owned by the Trenton Mortgage Service Company. The second floor location was the site of a spectacular gunpoint robbery in 1929. Sixty patrons at JOHN "CURLEY" McCUE's gambling club were held up by pistol-brandishing Italian bandits at 1 am on the 6th of January, 1929. Collecting \$2,600 from the victims, McCUE held everyone in the club for almost an hour; the police weren't tipped off until 3 am by a victim. A Grand Jury investigation into the matter revealed widespread *payola* to the Trenton police and McCUE pleading no contest to charges of running a disorderly house.⁴² Following this the second floor space was leased by the London Raincoat Manufacturing Company in April 1930 and later became the site of *Democratic Club Room*. It was occupied by the *Moore Social Club* until the Count took it over. Photographs taken by the city's tax department a few years earlier show a business name, illegible, but possibly the London Raincoat Company, on the front window. By the time of the *Gem Social Club*, the windows were covered by drapes that were closed permanently. Unknown to the passerby, behind the drapes was a wall of wood, which was braced with iron rods crossing the window. Likewise, the back door was similarly blocked. Patrons entered on Front Street, went up the stairs up to a landing and were met with a door of steel. This door had a small sliding plate behind which the doorman sat and, with the correct password given, the patron passed through the first door. Behind this was a second steel door that was braced shut and between the two the patron would be scrutinized more. Once through the second metal door, the ambience was relaxed, as it was hoped his wallet would be, by a third door of wood. Upon entering the *Social Club* you were greeted with a half dozen small tables which had groups of men gathered playing cards and checkers. At one end of the room a small office was fashioned by a partition where the Count could usually be found, often in the company of his *Lieutenant*, RAYMOND S. MARKS. In this office could be found at least one, perhaps more, telephone receivers that were hooked into a loud speaker system. These transmitted the official "calling" of horse races over loud speakers to the patrons. Races were broadcast from three tracks: New Orleans *Fair Grounds* (the second oldest such venue in the country, after Freehold Raceway in New Jersey), the *Santa Anita Racetrack* in Arcadia, a suburb of Los Angeles (closed in 1909, reopened in 1934) and the *Charles Town Races* in Charleston, West Virginia which had opened in 1933. Horse race tracks across the country dwindled in number through the first three decades of the 20th century and Prohibition had a deleterious effect on those that remained. With the impending end of Prohibition in 1933, owners of the shuttered horse race venues dusted them off and reopened while new tracks were built across the country in the first years of the 1930s. ALBERT's name appears as a buyer of *Atwater Kent* and *Radiola* radios and speakers in a sales ad for *Joe's Tire Shop* at the end of 1927. Of Joe's four "neighborhood" stores, ALBERT probably went to the one that was close to the Battle Monument; perhaps it was some of this equipment that was seized during the 1937 raid. The early date of purchase hints at ALBERT being involved in race track betting well before 1933. Bets would be made up until post time and the bettors would listen for their race results and get paid their winnings by, or more often, lose their bets to, the Count. On the wall next to the 'office'

⁴² *Trenton Evening Times*, 12 January 1929, p 1; 3 February, p 1; and 23 April 1929, p 4

was a race result bulletin board. He would have purchased a news wire subscription that was the recipient of the telegraphed race results by observers at the tracks he was interested in taking bets on. There was also a way for bookies to distribute the risks involved in making book throughout the country by placing or transferring bets to distant bookies through the news wire but whether or not he used this to lessen the odds of his operation sustaining big losses is not known. He undoubtedly spread out his risk but just how he did it isn't clear. He also was known to take bets on local sporting events like Trenton High School basketball and football games. Another item in the Count's office was a large clay pot with two vials of liquid, which we will return to later.

The Count's Lieutenant, RAY MARKS, was well-known to police by 1937. In early 1933 the then twenty-one year old MARKS pled guilty to possessing lottery slips.⁴³ His wife, also in the numbers racket, testified during a major graft trial involving the police department. Trenton Police CHIEF WILLIAM P. WALTER, SERGEANT WILLIAM J. MARREN and PATROLMAN GEORGE J. BRUNN were charged with accepting bribes in exchange for allowing certain gambling clubs to operate unmolested and indicted for malfeasance of office. HARRY "MUGSY" REDNOR ran the REDNOR-TOMES-PELLETIERE numbers syndicate out of the basement of the REDNOR home at 255 Euclid Avenue (a block away from where the MATELENA family moved in 1942) and was the star witness for the prosecution in the graft case. Mention of a hold-up at a craps game near Lawrenceville planned by REDNOR surfaced.⁴⁴ An unproven story about ALBERT has him running a gambling 'cabin' in the woods near Eggert Crossing Road, just off of the Trenton to Princeton trolley line. Also called the Johnson Trolley and the Fast Line, there was a stop where it crossed Eggert Crossing Road; now the right-of-way in Lawrence Township is a walking path. The Fast Line stopped running in the 1930s as did all of Trenton's trolleys. "I recall being told that the sheriff raided the cabin and shot a shoe-heel off of a certain grandfather a-fleeing through a corn-field. I also recall how the crap table was battery-magnetized to attract the loaded dice to the desired positions."⁴⁵ Perhaps it was the Count's craps game that REDNOR robbed.

By the mid-1930s, the Trenton Police Department, under the direction of CAPTAIN WILLIAM A. DOOLING who had replaced WALTER after the 1935 graft trial, broke free from the usual bribery by the gambling establishments that allowed them to thrive and flourish. Intent on ridding the city of these establishments, the new CAPTAIN of the Police Department embarked on an aggressive war against gambling by 1933. Within a few years almost all were closed however the Count continued to operate and even grew larger as the competition dwindled. CAPTAIN DOOLING had repeatedly threatened the Count with action but could find no grounds for a search warrant. He had the Count watched for over five years and tried in vain to catch him. In the spring of 1938, the charges of 1934 were dropped and new charges of operating a gambling establishment were filed against the Count but nothing could come of them without a witness.

This life style was hard on family life as well. Though the gambling establishments were away from home, the house was watched to see who was in contact with ALBERT. Their daughters were not allowed to have friends over, the drapes

⁴³ *Trenton Evening Times*, 13 October 1933, p 1

⁴⁴ *Trenton Evening Times*, 8 January 1935, pp. 1, 11

⁴⁵ JEFF NABINGER (see note 2).

were always closed and it was if a shroud of secrecy enveloped the family at all times.

One of the visitors to the *Gem Social Club* in the fall of 1937 was one MORRIS CHANEY. He was allegedly from Los Angeles and was in New Jersey to sell cameras. He had traveled earlier through Columbus, Ohio and Chicago, Illinois. Staying at a mid-city hotel in October, he had heard of the *Gem Social Club* but was unsuccessful at gaining entry. He made contact with "VINCENT THE TAILOR" who vouched for him to the Count, he gained entrance to the *Club* on November 5th. There he became a regular, placing bets, one time winning \$50.00. By December, MORRIS' luck had changed and when his hotel asked him to pay his bill, he couldn't. He was arrested by the police and, when questioned on December 9th, revealed that he lost his money betting at the *Gem Social Club*. This was the "smoking gun" the police needed.

Shortly after 5:00 PM on Saturday, December 10th, under the direction of CHIEF DOOLING and CAPTAIN EDWARD J. BARRY, the *Gem* was raided. *Three police cars drove up in front of the club's headquarters, on the second floor at 17 East Front Street, and discharged 15 officers armed with sledge hammers and crowbars.* They split into two groups, one headed around back, battering down the rear door, while the larger group attacked the heavily guarded front doors. Once inside they found 21 men sitting around tables and the Count and MARKS in the office stirring what remained of betting forms in the clay pot into which two vials of acid had been poured. The Count and his *lieutenant* were arrested and the 21 others loaded into paddy wagons and taken to police headquarters as material witnesses. They were released on \$3000.00 bail, put up by ARMANDO AGABITI, *an official of the Italian-American Sportsmen Club*. The other 21 were released on their own recognizance. One of these 21 was the Count's brother FRANK MATELENA.

On Monday the 12th, they were represented in Police Court by JOSEPH J. FELCONE. They were supposedly charged with bookmaking, pool selling and operating a gambling resort; the actual filing has not been located. If convicted, a mandatory one to five year sentence plus a fine could have been expected. That afternoon the Grand Jury met and handed down indictments for much lighter charges - operating a disorderly house and aiding and abetting the maintaining of a disorderly house, both misdemeanors. What happened on Monday afternoon is unknown but, given the newspaper accounts, it seems highly possible that the Count considered fleeing south: *Gambling Raid Victims, Reported 'Out of Town,' Must Face Court Friday* headlined page one of the *Trenton Evening Times* of 13 December. Their attorney stated that *It is only natural they might be away for a brief vacation ...* Prosecutor ANDREW J. DUCH stated "These men have been given a fair warning for over a year and a half to cease their activities, but they brazenly and defiantly flaunted the authorities."

Acting extremely quickly, ALBERT and RAY were arraigned on Tuesday, a hearing which they missed. *Trenton's Reputed Gambling Kingpin and Aide Indicted* was the front page headline of the *Trenton State Gazette* of December 13th. They were ordered to appear in Court on Friday to enter a plea. Meanwhile, WILLIAM F. SMITH, assistant United States attorney hinted at opening a tax evasion probe. Trial was set for Tuesday, December 20th. They hired WALTER D. COUGLE to work with FELCONE on their defense. They entered "not guilty" pleas on Friday. The attorneys filed for an adjournment based on the unusual speed with which the Court was proceeding and a physician's statement, which said that ALBERT's health was poor. The request was denied. Their

defense team contemplated applying to the New Jersey Supreme Court for a writ of review. On Monday the 19th, JUDGE JAMES S. TURP granted a four-week delay due to the *precarious health* of Mr. COUGLE's mother.

On Monday, 16 January 1938, Court convened and Mr. COUGLE entered a motion to quash the indictment, which was rejected. Fourteen people were selected for the jury and a *mass of evidence* was brought into the courtroom. The evidence included

alleged betting slips, pay-off pads, several large steel plates ..., two large reinforced doors with 'peephole' slots which show evidence of having been freely battered by raiders' axes. The paraphernalia, ..., also includes several iron pipe railing, two telephones with the ends of wires showing evidence of having been cut and several large roped bundles of 'Racing Form' a publication devoted to horse race news. Preparations were also made to string a wire through the courtroom for a demonstration hookup of a loudspeaker system nabbed in the raid over which ... the results of races at various tracks were announced ...

The trial started in the afternoon to a packed courtroom. The prosecution brought MAURICE CHANEY to the stand who testified to his relationship with the *Gem Social Club*. The defense countered that this was a true social club *where some of the boys drop in after going to the movies or bingo*. COUGLE also questioned the necessity of bringing in a stranger from California as a witness because the prosecution maintained that the *Club was a great nuisance to all the citizens of New Jersey*. Where were the local citizens who were subject to this nuisance on a daily basis he queried the jury? On Tuesday CHANEY testified he had placed bets on races at horse tracks in New Orleans, California and Charleston. A manager of Bell Telephone's Trenton office testified that two telephones were installed under the name *MR. H.A. MATELENA* at a Lanning Avenue address. The phones were transferred to 17 East Front Street in March 1938.

On Wednesday, the Count and RAY pleaded no contest to charges of operating a disorderly house after a lengthy conference with their counsel. ... *thus the last of the major bookmakers who survived the crusade against horse race gambling faded out without a fight* reported the *Trenton Evening Times* of January 18th. The maximum penalty that could be imposed was 3 years imprisonment and/or \$1000.00 fine. Sentencing was set for Friday, January 27th. On that date they were fined \$900.00 plus \$101.29 in court costs each and suspended Workhouse sentences of 15 months each. Paid, once again, by ARMANDO AGABITI, the pair were released with the warning that *the least bit of trouble from either of you the Workhouse sentence will go into effect*. Oddly, the *Trenton State Gazette* of January 28th reported that the Count could not raise the money and was jailed while the *Trenton Evening Times* of January 27th reported that AGABITI paid the fines. Which account is true is not known but the Count's arrest record says he was committed until paid. On 24 February 1939, JUDGE TURP reconsidered his sentence under appeal and revised it to a \$450.00 fine and 3 years probation.⁴⁶

HARRY H. MORGAN, the camera-salesman-turned-stool-pigeon who called himself MAURICE CHANEY, suddenly had his outstanding hotel bill of \$114.69 paid the day after MATELENA and MARKS pled guilty. Also known by the alias ALBERT BLAKE, he was

⁴⁶ Arrest Record No. 3928, City of Trenton, NJ, Bureau of Police.

released on his own recognizance; perhaps tellingly, there is no mention about where the money came from but that it was paid by someone other than CHANEY is clear. He is credited with wrecking *Trenton's last major horse race bookmaking establishment*.⁴⁷

What happened to the family during this period is not known. DOROTHY and the daughters may have been sent away to avoid the publicity or they may have been well aware of it and still reticent to talk about it years later. Besides these documented occurrences, one gathers similar, if not documented, ones as well. One recounts going with a friend to a small bar named Hubby's *on the corner behind Moose Hall off East State Street* at 16 Canal Street where his friend sat next to a *well-dressed man* already at the bar. The man introduced a companion of his. The two exchanged paper bags, one containing the tickets needed for betting, the other had cash. When the Count caught wind of this, he became quite upset as the man's *companion* was a known hit man.⁴⁸ There are two separate enumerations in the 1940 Federal Census, one for ALBERT and DOROTHY and the other for his 77-year-old mother MARY and their 3 daughters. The census states the monthly rent for the house was \$37.50; ALBERT is a *producer* for a fruit and produce company, having made \$896.00 in salary plus more than \$50.00 in non-salaried income.⁴⁹ In the first half of 1942 ALBERT had to register for the World War II Draft; on his card he stated that he was self-employed and ran a fruit and produce company from his home at 22 Cavell Avenue.⁵⁰ A young girl named GAIL WOODS lived at 30 Cavell and she recalls ALBERT and DOROTHY doting on her and ALBERT leaving small boxes of candy for her on occasion. She also remembers that ALBERT was operating a taxicab service at this time.⁵¹

They moved a block away from Trenton Central High School, 500 Chambers Street between Hamilton and Greenwood Avenues, in the summer of 1942 just after DOROTHY graduated. On 19 August 1942 they purchased a house at 328 Euclid Avenue in Trenton from REUNEY D. and ORA V. PETTY.⁵² This property remained mortgaged for many years, the first mortgage was for \$4250.00 plus 5% per annum interest. On 3 January 1949 a \$5000.00 mortgage from 440 East State Street, Incorporated was used to pay off the first mortgage; a subsequent \$5500.00 mortgage from Howard Savings Institute on 30 October 1953 paid off the second mortgage. On 1 February 1955 ALBERT obtained a fourth mortgage of \$8000.00 from Roma Savings and Loan and paid off the third mortgage from Howard Savings. This last mortgage was not paid until the house was sold. On 5 August 1955, STANLEY MCDOWELL gave a mortgage of \$3000.00 which was extended on 4 October 1957 by an additional mortgage of \$5000.00 from STANLEY.⁵³

⁴⁷ *Trenton Evening Times*, 19 January 1939, p 5

⁴⁸ JOHN NABINGER, conversation with author, December 1997, Lawrenceville, NJ.

⁴⁹ 1940 U.S. Census, Mercer County, New Jersey, Trenton, 7th Ward, 4 April 1940, ED 27-50, sheet 61A, lines 33-36 and 8 April 1940, ED 27-50, sheet 5B, lines 41-42.

⁵⁰ U.S. Selective Service System, *Selective Service Registration Cards, World War II: Fourth Registration*. 1942. National Archives and Records Administration.

⁵¹ Erik Pyontek (son of Gail Woods), contact with author via FaceBook, 22 – 27 October 2015

⁵² Mercer County Deeds, vol.844, p.16, dated and recorded 19 August 1942; and Mercer County Mortgages, vol.659, p.221, dated and recorded 19 Aug 1942; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁵³ Mercer County Mortgages, vol.816, p.331, 3 January 1949; vol.979, p.252, 30 October 1953; vol.1026, p.84, 1 February 1955; vol.1045, p.398, 5 August 1955; vol.1127, p.87, 4 October 1957; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

With this move, ALBERTA, now entering 8th grade, would have changed to the recently built (1940) and reopened (1942) Junior 2 at Cuyler and Gladstone Avenues, three blocks behind the Chambers Street High School (in 1926 Junior 2 on Tyler Street since 1917, was divided between the 2nd High School next door at Hamilton and Chestnut Avenues and an elementary school in 1926; this change resulted in a seemingly odd situation: between 1926 and 1942 Trenton had four Junior High Schools numbered 1, 3, 4 and 5 – no number 2!); MARIE had started Trenton Central High School in 1941 and ALBERTA would follow in 1944.

In February 1947, there appears in the New Jersey Court records, a lawsuit regarding the termination of telephone service on the 7th of the month at ALBERT'S home as it was *being used for illegal purposes, namely, 'bookmaking'*. Her affidavit states that the action was *based upon mere suspicion only that her father, ALBERT MATELENA, with whom she resides, had been using the facilities for the purpose of making book on horse races*.⁵⁴ A letter, dated 6 February 1947, from the Trenton Police Department to NJ Bell Telephone, contains a list of known bookmakers, their locations, and their telephone numbers. ALBERT MATELENA, of 328 Euclid Avenue is found on the list as is DANNY NAPLES at 24 Merchant Street and GEORGE NAPLES in the *rear of the Imperial Club* at Mott and Whittaker Streets. Worthy of note is 19 South Warren Street, the *cigar store* the ALBERT'S mother MARY ran in the 1930s, now run by PETER PETERINO. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for 11 March by Vice Chancellor WILFRED H. JAYNE at the State House Annex after DOROTHY testified that the telephone registration was changed from her father's name to hers in May 1946 after she became a registered nurse. Phone service was still off two months later when the Public Utilities Commission requested briefs to be filed within seven days of a hearing in Newark on 2 April 1947.⁵⁵ Since February it had come to light that a dozen calls were made for the correct time between 12 and 1 pm from the 19th of December to the 23rd of January. A.J. BITTIG, counsel for the telephone company, testified that *experienced gamblers use this hour to synchronize their watches with standard time so they would not lose out* by paying for bets placed after the race was over. DOROTHY testified before JOHN E. BOSWELL, president of the utility board, that her father had not worked *for three years because of a nervous breakdown*. Further, she placed the change of telephone service earlier, on 21 December 1945. The outcome of this case is not known.

In March 1947 *the Count* was again the victim of a crime when he was *slugged and robbed* according to a newspaper account. He was chased for a block before falling at Hampton Street near Walnut Avenue after attending the Trenton Tigers versus Philadelphia SPHAs (South Philadelphia Hebrew Association) basketball game at the Arena. He lost his wristwatch and \$12.⁵⁶ 1947 was the Trenton team's only championship year. In the 1950 city directory DOROTHY and ALBERT are listed with their daughter DOROTHY as a nurse.⁵⁷ This information was probably obtained before their

⁵⁴ "Denies' Phone Used In Bets, Nurse Sues To Get It Back," *Trenton Evening Times*, 28 February 1947, p 10, column 3.

⁵⁵ "Decision Reserved On Plea To Restore Matelena Phone; Bookmaking Charge Denied, *Trenton Evening Times*, 2 April 1947, p 1, column 5.

⁵⁶ "Felled, Robbed By Two Thugs," *Trenton Evening Times*, 24 March 1947, p 1, column 4.

⁵⁷ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1950, p.558; Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

daughter married JOHN NABINGER in October 1949. On 15 January 1952 ALBERT again applied for a social security number. This application states he was unemployed and uses the name JOSEPH ALBERT MATELENA.⁵⁸ In April of 1952, ALBERT applied for, and received, a taxi license in Hamilton Township.⁵⁹ He appears to have had an associate in this venture that also had a history of being involved in the numbers racket.⁶⁰ He put brick siding on the Euclid Avenue house in 1952.⁶¹

The Count maintained his connection to, and probably participated in, the underground gambling scene in the Trenton area. On 1 November 1952, three indictments were delivered by a Grand Jury in New Jersey Superior Court. The indictments were for bookmaking, operating a bookmaking establishment, and operating a horse race betting establishment, all in Hamilton Township; each a violation of section 2A: 112 and 113 of New Jersey Statutes. Once indicted, an investigation was opened.⁶²

In April 1953, Hamilton Township Police CHIEF THOMAS SIMPSON ordered surveillance of a few *bookie joints* operating in the area; the rackets were still under the control of STEFANO BADAMI until his murder in 1955. On May 19th he ordered a raid on the *Greenwood Grill*, at Greenwood and Johnston Avenues; the *Paddock Café* at East State Street and Nottingham Way; and the *Clinton Metal Shop* at 384 Miller Avenue. The *Grill* and the *Café* were located a few blocks from each other on opposite sides of Bromley Park while the metal shop was about a mile away, not far from where Johnston dead-ends into Liberty Street. The raids, conducted by five Police Detectives in conjunction with three Mercer County Detectives, resulted in four arrests. At the *Clinton Metal Shop* they found *an elaborate gambling set-up in a second-floor room* and they *confiscated a short-wave radio, telephone, horse race and lottery bets, scratch sheets and other gaming equipment* and a telephone with the number TR6-1096. JULES ERDIE, then 46 years old, was arrested at the shop after the detectives used axes to gain entry. He was charged with possession of lottery slips. ERDIE rented the second floor from CARL SCHMELZ, the owner of the shop. ALBERT had been tipped-off by police the day before the raid and had warned JULES to stay away, a warning he chose to ignore. SCHMELZ was arrested and charged with the operation of a lottery and bookmaking.⁶³

At the Hamilton Township Police Station, CARL SCHMELZ gave a statement to DETECTIVE MICHAEL LAROSSA of the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office and Detectives JOHN MERRYWEATHER and TAYLOR of Hamilton Township. Apparently he built a small office, about 8 X 8 X 7.5 on the second floor. The Count's partner (ERDIE) approached SCHMELZ, wanting to rent the office for \$35.00 a month to run the *Ambrose Woodworking Company*. He agreed and accepted the first rent on 11 January 1953. SCHMELZ described the Count:

⁵⁸ Application for Social Security Number 155-10-8794 and 146-26-4083 (See note 32)

⁵⁹ Taxi license A-1249, ALBERT MATELENA, Hamilton Township, NJ, 21 April 1952.

⁶⁰ Taxi license A-1260, name blocked out, Hamilton Township, NJ, 19 June 1952.

⁶¹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 25 May 1952

⁶² The State of New Jersey versus ALBERT J. MATELENA, Defendant, Indictment for Bookmaking and Keeping a Gambling Resort, No. 90-52, September Term, 1952. The author is indebted to Geoffrey Rein of the Mercer Vicinage Records Department for locating the court record of this case in March 2004, thus ending a search that began in 1997.

⁶³ "Police Wield Axe In Raid On Hamilton Bookie Joints," *Trenton Evening Times*, 20 May 1953; page 13, column 5.

About 5'7" tall, weighs approximately 145 to 150 pounds, has a pencil moustache that runs across the middle of his upper lip, I'd say he's a man in the middle fifties, I'm not sure, his complexion is on the tan side, I never saw him without a hat, he never wore glasses, I never seen him with glasses, he was very clean shaven, I'd say his beard would be on the dark side, he was always in sporty clothes, sport shoes, sport slacks, sport coat, sport hat, whatever kind of hat he had, sometimes a tan jacket, different colored slacks, he had blue slacks, a gray sport coat and he had shoes to match, mostly a sport shirt, with no tie. He was gray on the temples. I don't know whether he was gray headed, dark headed or not. I'd say he was medium built. He's on the nervous side, too. The only time I ever saw him smoking was once he was smoking a cigar.

According to the SCHMELZ, the Count drove a light green 1952 Buick Riviera. He identified the Count and ERDIE from pictures. The Count's pictures included his 1938 arrest photo and his taxi license photo. The picture at right is from the 1926 Trenton Police Department file of Hack Licenses; named as JULIUS ERDIE, if this is the same person, he was about 20 years old in 1926. DETECTIVES JOHN MERRYWEATHER and BERRISFORD signed a complaint against the Count immediately. CAPTAIN BOOZ ordered his arrest and the Detectives proceeded to the Trenton Detective Bureau where they coordinated the arrest with CAPTAIN WELSH, who ordered SERGEANT FAGAN to arrest the Count at 328 Euclid Avenue. This the sergeant did and the Count was turned over to the Hamilton Township detectives. He was charged in Trenton this time for being a fugitive on bookmaking charges.⁶⁴ The Count was evidently expecting the arrest as MANNY KAPLAN, his attorney, had called the Hamilton Township Police Department to arrange for bail before the Count even showed up there. He was arraigned at 7:00 pm in front of MAGISTRATE DANIEL RAPPOPORT and the case was postponed to 4 June 1953. He was released under \$2000.00 bail, which was provided by JACK RUDNICK, attorney in fact for Manufacturers Casualty Insurance Company. He was charged by the Hamilton Township Police on 25 May 1953 with operating a gambling establishment at 384 Miller Avenue.⁶⁵ The following account appeared in the *Trenton Evening Times* on Tuesday, May 26th:



Bookmaking Count Faced By MATELENA

ALBERT J. MATELENA, 57, of 328 Euclid Avenue, known as "The Count," has been arrested by Hamilton Township police. They charge MATELENA was a partner in an alleged large-scale gambling establishment raided by township and county detectives last week.

MATELENA was released in \$2,000 cash bond last night to await a hearing on June 4 before Magistrate DANIEL RAPPOPORT. He is specifically charged with bookmaking and holding stakes on horses.

The township authorities contend MATELENA was a partner of JULES ERDIE, 53,

⁶⁴ State Bureau of Investigation No. 121698, Division of State Police, Department of Law and Public Safety, State of NJ.

⁶⁵ Hamilton Township Police Department, Criminal case 53-21117, ALBERT MATELENA.

of 453 Centre Street in gambling operations at the Clinton Metal Shop at 284 Miller Avenue. ERDIE was arrested in the shop last Tuesday by detectives who used an axe to batter down the door. Police said they found a short-wave radio and gambling paraphernalia in the second-floor sound-proof room.

Township police said ERDIE and MATELENA alternated in running the gambling business on a week-to-week basis.

MATELENA told the authorities that he is in the cab business. Trenton police say their records show he was arrested and fined \$1,500 in 1938 on a bookmaking charge.

MATELENA was arrested at his home yesterday by Hamilton Detective JOHN MERRYWEATHER and Acting Detective ERNEST BERRISFORD and City Detective Sergeant FRANK FAGAN.

The Miller Avenue metal shop was one of three places raided by the township and county detectives last week. The plainclothes officers also entered the Paddock Café at Nottingham Way and East State Street and the Greenwood Grill at Greenwood and Johnson Avenues and arrested a bartender in each place on a charge of taking horse bets.

The correct address of the metal shop is unclear as the *Times* states 284 while court records give 384 Miller Avenue. Not far from the intersection with Newkirk Avenue, currently, there is no 284 as Miller Avenue changes names to Edmund Street at Newkirk and the lowest-numbered block of Miller is the 300 block. The 200 block of Edmund has no 284 but there are several possibilities now appearing as empty lots in the first block of Edmund off Newkirk, most notably the lots on the alley behind 257 Newkirk Avenue. The house at 384 Miller appears to be a post-WW II brick clad bungalow with no indications that there ever was any type of business at the address.

KAPLAN had the case delayed to 9 June. The Count was indicted on the bookmaking and keeping a gambling resort charges on 11 August 1953 in the Criminal Law Division of the Mercer County Court for which he was arraigned on the 1st of September, entering a plea of not guilty.^{66 67}

⁶⁶ The State of New Jersey versus ALBERT J. MATELENA, Defendant, Indictment for Bookmaking and Keeping a Gambling Resort, No. 90, September Term, 1952, May 1953 Stated Session.

⁶⁷ 2001 NEW JERSEY STATUTES under which ALBERT MATELENA was charged:

2C:37-2. Promoting Gambling. (Replaced 2A:112-113 in 1979)

a. Promoting Gambling Defined. A person is guilty of promoting gambling when he knowingly:

- (1) Accepts or receives money or other property, pursuant to an agreement or understanding with any person whereby he participates or will participate in the proceeds of gambling activity; or
- (2) Engages in conduct, which materially aids any form of gambling activity. Such conduct includes but is not limited to conduct directed toward the creation or establishment of the particular game, contest, scheme, device or activity involved, toward the acquisition or maintenance of premises, paraphernalia, equipment or apparatus therefor, toward the solicitation or inducement of persons to participate therein, toward the actual conduct of the playing phases thereof, toward the arrangement of any of its financial or recording phases, or toward any other phase of its operation.

b. Grading. A person who violates the provisions of subsection a. by:

- (1) Engaging in bookmaking to the extent he receives or accepts in any one day more than five bets totaling more than \$1,000.00; or

The Count hired BERTRAM LEFKOWITZ, of 177 South Broad Street, to represent him. LEFKOWITZ served the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office on 19 September 1953 with a Notice of his intention to file a motion the following week with the Superior Court to obtain access to all records from the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office regarding the case against him, including *papers or documents, or written statements, allegedly made by the defendant* which may be introduced as evidence. At the same time a *Notice of Motion to Compel* MARIO VOLPE, Mercer County Prosecutor, to answer the *Bill of Particulars* was filed. This *Bill* asked VOLPE to supply the answers to fourteen questions that would reveal the specific dates and the races the Count committed the alleged infractions, the names and addresses of any witnesses, the specifics of the rental agreement between ALBERT and the owner of the property, as well as a full description of any gambling paraphernalia found on ALBERT at the time of his arrest. While a copy of this *Bill* has been obtained; the answers to the questions, if the Motion was granted, have not been located by the author.

After a lengthy delay of two years, attributed to the postponements obtained by LEFKOWITZ, the case went to trial on Monday, the 16th of May, 1955. One such postponement was obtained on the 25th of April when the attorney stated that the Count had suffered a back injury which prevented his appearance.⁶⁸ At the same trial, the charges against CARL SCHMELZ, stemming from the raid, were also heard. SCHMELZ had allegedly identified the Count in his statement to city and county authorities on 19 May 1953 but refused to positively identify ALBERT as the operator of the bookie joint at the Hamilton Township Police Court hearing on 9 June 1953 claiming that he had only admitted that the photographs he was shown by the police resembled the Count but not-so-far as to allow him to positively identify him. The judge in that case, CHARLES P. HUTCHINSON, felt that SCHMELZ changed his testimony to protect *higher ups* in the bookmaking ring. HUTCHINSON wanted to make an example of SCHMELZ:

[if] the big boys of gambling operations are to be punished they cannot and must not be shielded by persons who are caught in the police net. Those who persist in covering up or taking the rap for those who should be punished must themselves be punished, so that the administration of criminal law can effectively continue.

(2) Receiving, in connection with a lottery or policy scheme or enterprise (a) money or written records from a person other than a player whose chances or plays are represented by such money or records, or (b) more than \$100.00 in any one day of money played in such scheme or enterprise, is guilty of a crime of the third degree and notwithstanding the provisions of section 2C:43-3 shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$35,000.00 and any other appropriate disposition authorized by N.J.S.2C:43-2 b.

A person who violates the provisions of subsection a. by engaging in bookmaking to the extent he receives or accepts three or more bets in any two-week period is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree and notwithstanding the provisions of section 2C:43-3 shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000.00 and any other appropriate disposition authorized by N.J.S.2C:43-2b. Otherwise, promoting gambling is a disorderly persons offense and notwithstanding the provisions of section 2C:43-3 shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 and any other appropriate disposition authorized by N.J.S.2C:43-2b.

c. It is a defense to a prosecution under subsection a. that the person participated only as a player. It shall be the burden of the defendant to prove by clear and convincing evidence his status as such player.

Amended 1979, c.178, s.69; 1997, c.181, s.9.

⁶⁸ "New Respite To Matalena," *Trenton Evening Times*, 26 April 1955, p 20, c 4

SCHMELZ was found guilty of *false swearing* on 29 January 1954 and was sentenced to a maximum of three years in state prison and fined \$1,500.⁶⁹ He was serving time in the State prison when he appeared at the May 16th trial. JULES ERDIE had pleaded no contest to the charges against him and had served his sentence in state prison and had already been released.

On the second day of the trial, Mercer county ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR FRANK H. LAWTON presented his theory that ALBERT and JULES alternated weekly in the betting operation since June of 1951.⁷⁰

DETECTIVE MERRYWEATHER, by this time retired, provided testimony on the third day that was quite damaging, to the prosecution. He could not offer any reason why the physical evidence confiscated during the raid was any different than items one would expect to find in any business establishment; he was forced to recant his testimony that written data allegedly identifying horse races, horse names, bets and gamblers, found at the shop was *apparently in code known only to gamblers* as having had no basis in fact; that none of the more than one hundred callers to the shop during the raid had asked for *the Count* in order to place a bet; and that ALBERT'S presence at the shop had not been established at any time during the raid.⁷¹

The State rested its case on the 24th of May after items seized during the raid were admitted into evidence over the objections of defense counsel that none of the evidence had been shown to have been owned, bought or controlled by ALBERT and that the State had not proved that SCHMELZ had any knowledge of the articles. Separate motions for a directed verdict of acquittal were immediately filed as counsels, FRANK S. KATZENBACH, III for SCHMELZ and LEFKOWITZ for the Count, had different reasons for seeking acquittal.⁷²

On Wednesday the 25th, JUDGE CLIFTON C. BENNETT denied both *Motions for Acquittal*. The defense rested without placing ALBERT on the stand. In his summation, LEFKOWITZ called for an acquittal as the evidence was the weakest he had seen in 24 years of practicing law; there was nothing to link ALBERT to any of the seized items or to the operation of any business at the shop at the time of the raid. LAWTON countered with the supposition that the State had produced enough evidence to *prove MATELENA guilty as charged* as witnesses had placed him at the shop the week before the raid and that the seized evidence was necessary to conduct such an operation. JUDGE BENNETT dismissed the charges against SCHMELZ as possessing knowledge of a gambling establishment is not enough to convict and the State had failed to tie the defendant directly to the illegal operation. He was returned to prison to finish his sentence for false swearing which is odd in that this charge originated with his given description of the Count and his later refusal to identify the Count *as the operating of the bookmaking establishment* – two wholly different things.⁷³ Considering the verdict of the jury in ALBERT'S case, apparently the Court disposed of the SCHMELZ case first.

⁶⁹ *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 31 January 1954, p 1 and *Trenton Evening Times*, 21 May 1954, p 1

⁷⁰ "4 Women And 10 Men Trying Matelena Case," *Trenton Evening Times*; 17 May 1955; page 1, col 6.

⁷¹ "Lively Quiz In Matelena Bookie Case," *Trenton Evening Times*; 19 May 1955; page 1, column 7.

⁷² "Court Studies Acquittal Plea In Bookie Case," *Trenton Evening Times*; 24 May 1955; page 1, col 3.

⁷³ "Jurors Hear No Evidence By Matelena. Defendant Fails To Take Witness Stand In Bookie Case," *Trenton Evening Times*; 25 May 1955; page 1, column 5.

The jury deliberated for seven hours on the 25th before agreeing with LEFKOWITZ when they acquitted the Count because the Prosecutor had failed to prove anything other than a casual connection between him and the premises that had been raided; proving that he had been there the week before the raid did not prove any involvement with bookmaking. The resulting finding was of *not guilty of three bookmaking charges*.⁷⁴ If this finding had been entered before that of the SCHMELZ case, the false swearing charge may not have been sustainable as his refusal to identify the Count as the bookmaker was sustained by the Count's acquittal. It is presumed the charges of being a fugitive on bookmaking charges filed in the city of Trenton were dismissed.

That ALBERT continued to be involved with the Cosa Nostra was related to the author by a cousin who stated that he had accompanied the New Jersey delegation to a well-known meeting of the heads of several crime families in New York in the late 1950s. That meeting, called the *Apalachin Conference*, was held on 14 November 1957 at the home of JOSEPH "JOE THE BARBER" BARBARA, about 200 miles northwest of New York City. Attended by over a hundred *Mafiosi*, the main purpose of the meeting was to divide up the late ALBERT ANASTASIA'S crime holdings; he had been gunned down on 25 October while getting a shave at Manhattan's Park Sheraton Hotel. A poorly conducted raid by local police saw the attendees fleeing the 53 acre BARBARA compound through fields with over sixty arrests, most of who were soon released without charge. Both representatives in attendance from the New Jersey family, under FILIPPO "PHIL" AMARI since BADAMI'S 1955 murder, was represented by second-in-command *underboss* FRANK MAJURI and third-in-command *caporegime* LOUIS "FAT LOU" LAROSSA and both were among those arrested. AMARI stepped down the following month with the family being headed by NICK DELMORE until 1964, and thereafter by his nephew SIMONE RIZZO "SAM THE PLUMBER" DECAVALCANTE from Lawrenceville. The FBI's *Goodfella Tapes* that confirmed the structure of the Italian organized crime syndicate were obtained from the illegal bugging of SAM THE PLUMBER'S phone lines from 1961 to 1965. One of SAM'S alleged business fronts was the Chambersburg Dairy at 276 Home Avenue. It is known that ALBERT associated with him.⁷⁵ In 1969 SAM, who was also known as *The Count*, and 54 associates were arrested for gambling. Earning an estimated \$20 million yearly, SAM was convicted of extortion and conspiracy and imprisoned until 1976; he retired to Florida, where the family maintained operations as well, in 1980. He died in 1997 and is buried in *Greenwood Cemetery* in Trenton.

ALBERT was continually troubled with his heart problems, which were later complicated by diabetes. This, coupled with arthritis, left him unable to work for extended periods of time. In the mid- to late-1950s it became apparent the Count had been intimately involved with a member of the RISALDI family for many years and, in fact, spent a large amount of time with that family of whom a number of younger members called him *UNCLE AL*. This caused a significant rupture with his daughters, especially ALBERTA who severely upbraided him at the Euclid Avenue house and never forgave him for being unfaithful.

On 19 May 1956, ALBERT began work as a cashier for PETER L. TONTI, owner of Pete's Steak House at 1458 Chambers Street, near Cedar Lane, in the Chambersburg

⁷⁴ "Jury Clears Matelena in Bookie Case," *Trenton Evening Times*; 26 May 1955; page 1, column 2.

⁷⁵ JEFF NABINGER, e-mail to author, 17 December 1999.

section of town. By August 1958 he was assistant manager there where he made \$2600.00 that year. Around 1960 he worked as an accountant for Aquilina Brothers, a concrete company on Stacy Avenue in Mercerville. In actuality he may have paid these businesses to place him on their payroll so as to be able to qualify for Social Security retirement benefits. ALBERT's health problems increased and he stopped working on 23 September 1960.⁷⁶ He may have also stopped to help with the care of his seriously ill wife.

Early in 1960, exploratory surgery was done on DOROTHY and it was discovered that she had diffuse lung cancer. Her health was so compromised that the large incision required to remove the tumors never healed. DOROTHY and ALBERT moved in with their daughter MARIE at 210 Elmore Avenue in the spring of 1960. For the last six months of her life DOROTHY did not want to sleep and she would rather stay up talking with someone, often her daughter MARIE, all night long.⁷⁷ On 12 November 1960, DOROTHY passed away from lung cancer. Services were conducted under the auspices of Greenwood Avenue Methodist Church at 1201 Greenwood Avenue, corner at Olden Avenue (now African United Methodist Church). She was buried on 15 November 1960 in section 15B, lot 48 at *Saint Mary's Cemetery* in Trenton.

After his wife's death, ALBERT sold the house on Euclid Avenue to STANLEY McDOWELL for \$1.00, subject to the Roma Savings and Loan mortgage, which was paid off in November. The 1957 mortgage between ALBERT and STANLEY was not part of this deed and that mortgage was paid off on 30 October 1962.⁷⁸ It has been said that he had to sell the house as he could no longer afford the mortgage payments and cover the medical bills of his wife's last year.⁷⁹ He collected disability from the government after this. He lived with his daughter MARIE until the late 1970s. Evidently he was less-than-appreciative of his daughter's efforts to accommodate him over the years and was asked to leave. He moved to Donnelly Convalescent Home in Trenton until 8 October 1981, when he passed away at 11:50 AM of a heart attack. He was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* on 10 October 1981. Over the years it has been said that any money the Count had ended up with the RISALDI family.

ALBERT posthumously received the Purple Heart on 15 April 2000 from United States PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON for wounds received on 17 October 1918 during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in the First World War through the diligence of the author. He was inducted into the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in October 2009.

Issue:

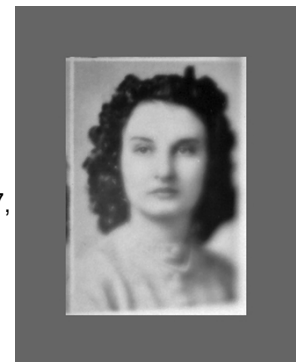
DOROTHY MATELENA: Her birth announcement states that DR. GEORGE WILLIAMS and MRS. CHARLES OTIS were in attendance. She was baptized at Saint Mary's Cathedral on 5 October 1924. Sponsors were JOHN and JOSEPHINE MATELENA. In this record her date of birth is given as 12 June 1924. Living on

⁷⁶ Records of Veteran's Administration, Bayonne, NJ of ALBERT MATELENA.

⁷⁷ MARIE NABINGER (see note 25)

⁷⁸ Mercer County Deeds, vol.1598, p.71, 30 October 1961 and Mercer County Mortgages, vol.1127, Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁷⁹ MARIE NABINGER (see note 25)



Spuce Street, she attended Columbus Elementary School now at 643 Indiana Avenue. Her entry into Junior High corresponded with the family's move to Cavell Street so she attended Trenton Junior 1 at 800 Princeton Avenue near Southard Street; she graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1942. She married JOHN 'JACK' NABINGER (born c1922), son of JOHN and BERTHA NABINGER, on 22 October 1949. He had graduated from Junior 4 in 1937 and Trenton High School in 1940. They lived in an apartment in or near the 600 block of South Broad Street at first. While here DOROTHY's sister ALBERTA recuperated from the injuries she got in a head-on car collision on 8 December 1949. ALBERTA's husband VALENTINE was the driver. They moved to Barnett Drive in Lawrenceville, NJ. JACK died 30 September 2015 and was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton. DOROTHY died at Capital Health in Pennington, NJ on 21 June 2019 and was buried next to her husband.

- 1) JEFFREY NABINGER: born 1 March 1954. Lawrenceville, NJ.
 - a) (adopted daughter) NABINGER:
 - b) (daughter) NABINGER: born November 2010
- 2) STACY JOHN NABINGER: born 1960, married 10 September 1988 JANET ____, Washington Crossing, PA
 - a) STACY JOHN NABINGER, JUNIOR: born August 1989

MARIE MATELENA: notice of her birth can be found on page 21 of the Trenton Evening Times of 15 April: "Mother and baby are doing nicely under the care of DR. W.J. HARMAN and MRS. ALLEN MCBRIDE." She was baptized at Saint Mary's Cathedral on 12 September 1926. Sponsors were JOHN and JOSEPHINE

MATELENA. She attended Columbus Elementary School and either the Ringold Street or Jefferson Elementary School and Trenton Junior High Number 1 and she graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1944. She married WILLIAM NABINGER (born 22 May 1923), brother of JOHN, in Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland in late 1947 or early 1948. WILLIAM graduated from Junior 4 in 1939 and Trenton High in 1942. They lived in Trenton, NJ, first on Genesee Street, then at 210 Elmore Avenue. WILLIAM had worked as an ironworker, then in the sales department of Charles Chips, and finally retired from the NJ State Lottery Commission, while MARIE worked for ShopRite Supermarkets for many years. WILLIAM died at home on 22 January 2002. The funeral was conducted by Saul Colonial Funeral Home in Hamilton Square and he was interred in *Greenwood Cemetery* in Trenton. MARIE died at home on 7 June 2003 after a long illness and was interred next to her husband. Their children are:



- 1) WILLIAM NABINGER: "BILLY" born 12 May 1948 (Trenton, NJ), married 3 June 1972 LINDA __, Hamilton Square, NJ.
 - A) WILLIAM C. NABINGER
 - B) LAURIE NABINGER: married BRAD GRIBIN.
 - i) LOGAN ROBERT GRIBIN
- 2) LINDA NABINGER: born 29 July 1949 (Trenton, NJ), was in a relationship with DREW FILLO for a number of years; subsequent to that she married FRANK DiGIORGIO, Trenton, NJ. They divorced and Linda, with her daughter RENEE, moved back to her



mother's home at 210 Elmore Avenue, in 2003 to take care of MARIE during her illness which is reminiscent of MARIE doing the same thing with her own mother. FRANK DIGIORGIO died 11 December 2018.

A) RENEE FILLO

B) DAWN DIGIORGIO; married ROBERT DWAYNE LUCKY; 3 children, including:

1. ROBERT DWAYNE LUCKY, JUNIOR

C) CRYSTAL DIGIORGIO; married ___ MONTANEZ; married; 3 children, including:

A) ADRIANNA MONTANEZ

3) PATRICIA NABINGER: "Patty" born 25 February 1952 (Trenton, NJ), married (1) on 30 December 1972 MICHAEL BOWERS, no issue, divorced. Married (2) ___ DULLEA, divorced; issue:

A) BRIAN DULLEA

4) JOHN E. NABINGER: born 26 June 1963 (Trenton, NJ), married DANIELLE EHRLICH, 24 October 1992, Lawrenceville, Mercer Co., NJ., lives in Atlanta, Ga.

A) SIDNEY NABINGER: born 25 January 2004, Atlanta, GA.

B) COLE WILLIAM NABINGER: born 1 October 2006, Atlanta, GA



ALBERTA JEAN MATELENA: baptized 3 March 1929 at Saint Mary's Cathedral in Trenton. Sponsors were JOHN and JOSEPHINE MATELENA. Her father "christened" her with his own pet name: "*Mutchie*," its origins unknown however its durability was as it stayed with her through her life.

She made her First Holy Communion at the cathedral on 28 May 1938 and received her Confirmation there as well, in 1941. She attended Columbus Elementary School, then at 1200 Brunswick Avenue and now at 643 Indiana Avenue (though it is the same building) until the 4th grade when the family moved from Spruce Street to Cavell Street, then probably transferred to Jefferson Elementary at 411 Brunswick Avenue as explained earlier. Moving on to Junior High School, she attended both

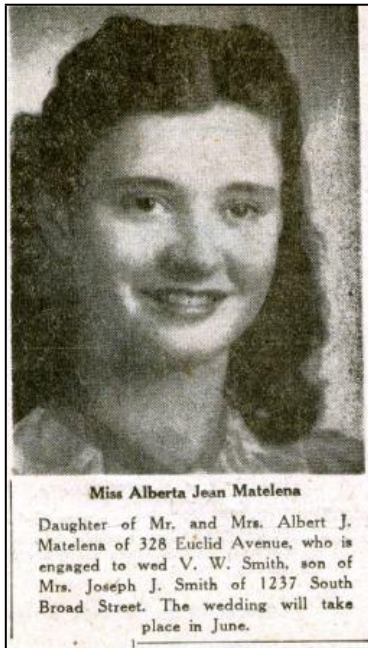


Trenton Junior High School 1, on Princeton Avenue at Southard Street, and the second Junior 2 which opened in 1942 behind the High School after the family moved to Euclid Avenue that same year. ALBERTA was thirteen years old and starting the 8th grade. She was in Junior 2's second graduating class of 224; the commencement exercises were held in the school auditorium on 14 June 1944.⁸⁰

She attended Trenton Central High School where she was a cheerleader. In high school she was known as "*Peaches*." She first met VALENTINE SMITH in 1946. At that time, it was improper for a couple to go on a date alone. His friend, JOHN NABINGER, was dating ALBERTA's sister DOROTHY and JOHN asked VALENTINE to go along as a chaperone and MARIE's date with him and DOROTHY. They actually met while VALENTINE and JOHN were waiting in the Euclid Avenue parlor and ALBERTA came up from the basement, soaking wet, after having

⁸⁰ "224 To Graduate From Junior Two," *Trenton Evening Times*, 13 June 1944, p 11, column 4.

washed the family's dog. ALBERTA served as a bridesmaid at the wedding of her cousin FRANK IERO to LILLIAN STANKIEWICZ in December 1946 at Holy Cross Church. THERESA LAUTERIO, another cousin was also one of the bridesmaids who were dressed in "acqua net" gowns with a headdress of a coronet and a classical bouquet of pink roses. A dinner at the Clio Club (which became Cedar Gardens) followed the ceremony and a later reception was held at the church auditorium.⁸¹ ALBERTA was apparently got good grades as she was listed as being in the top one-fifth of her class a few months before graduating from Trenton Central High School in June 1947. She was on the Black Team Cheer Leading squad for the 13th Annual Girls' Sport Nite in the spring of 1947.⁸²



As a child and young adult she enjoyed playing the piano and was quite good by some accounts. She had an outgoing personality and was adept at making many friends. She would accompany her grandmother MARIA to Saint Mary's Cathedral almost every Sunday, she maintained fast friendships with her many aunts, uncles and cousins over the years. Her UNCLE WILSON and AUNT OLIVE SOUTHARD and their daughter CAROL all had lifelong relationships with her as did her UNCLE JOHN and AUNT JOSEPHINE MATELENA and their daughter GLADYS GROPP. An engagement announcement and photograph to marry "V.W. SMITH" was published 1 February 1948.⁸³ She married VALENTINE SMITH on 19 June 1948. Their story is continued by their personal biographical section.



⁸¹ "Becomes Bride at Church Wedding," *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 29 December 1946, part 3, page 2, column 3.

⁸² The 13th Annual Program, Girls' Sports Nite, Trenton Central High School, p. 14

⁸³ *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 1 February 1948, part 3, page 3, column 5.

Husband: **GIUSEPPE MADDALENA (JOSEPH MATELENA)**

Born: 17 March 1854 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno della Due Sicilie¹

Married: 15 July 1880 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno d'Italia

Died: 2 August 1925 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey

Buried: *Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery*, Trenton, New Jersey

Father: GIOVANNI MADDALENA (6 April 1817 – <1880)

Mother: MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA (10 July 1824 – >1880)

Wife: **MARIA (MARY) CONCETTA SACCO**

Born: 9 February 1861 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno della Due Sicilie²

Died: 26 September 1943 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey

Buried: *Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery*, Trenton, New Jersey

Father: GAETANO SACCO (21 May 1831 – 1 April 1887)

Mother: MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO (11 March 1829 to 1880 – 1887)

Issue: ³	Born:	Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno d'Italia
1) EMILIA <i>MAMIE</i> MADDALENA	5 August 1881	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) GAETANINA <i>KATIE</i> MADDALENA	17 July 1884	Piedimonte d'Alife
3) DAVIDE ARTURO MADDALENA	22 March 1887	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) ALFONSO VINCENZO MADDALENA	1 August 1890	Piedimonte d'Alife ⁴
<hr/>		
New York County, New York		
5) MELI <i>JULIA</i> MARIA MADDALENA York	3 April 1893	Manhattan, City of New
6) UMBERTO GIUSEPPE MADDALENA	5 February 1896	Manhattan, City of New York
7) GIOVANNI MADDALENA York	22 October 1901	Manhattan, City of New

Marriages had to be performed by civil authorities to be recognized as valid; a religious

¹ Birth certificate of Giuseppe Maddalena; Archivio di Stato di Caserta, Italy; No.56 of 1854

² Birth certificate of Maria Sacco; Archivio di Stato di Caserta, Italy; No. 27 of 1861.

³ Birth information obtained from register extracts from the Ufficio della Stato Civile, Comune di Piedimonte Matese and directly from the registers: Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1881, No. 168. FamilySearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁴ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1890, No. 123. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 2322 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

ceremony alone did not create a marriage according to the laws of the Kingdom of Italy. The Church registers of the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore* and the *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*, the MADDALENA and SACCO family congregations respectively, do not have a marriage record. Accordingly, all official copies of marriage records and extracts are for a civil ceremony. GIUSEPPE, 26, was an *operaio* or laborer and the son of the late GIOVANNI and MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA who lives in Piedimonte. MARIA CONCETTA at 19 was a seamstress and the daughter of GAETANO and MARIA GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO both living in Piedimonte. Both GIOVANNI and MARIA CONCETTA were born in Piedimonte. Their witnesses were GIROLAMO ORSINI and GASPARE CIVITILLO both civil servants who probably worked in the *Casa comunale*, the office in City Hall where the ceremony was done at 3 pm on Thursday, 15 July 1880.⁵

Fortune was at hand when I began researching my Italian ancestry. No one I asked had any idea of the location of our ancestors, save one person, JOHN MATELENA who also was intrigued by it as well. In a letter to the author, dated 7 May 1985, he wrote:

I remember them [JOSEPH and MARY MATELENA] telling us that they had emigrated from a small town in Italy, named Piedimonte d'Alife. (Recently in one of the local libraries I found the following info. about this town in "The Columbia Lippincott Gazetter [sic] of the World." Piedimonte d'Alife Population 5,997 1936 Caserta Province, Campania, S Italy at foot of the Apennines, S of Lago Di Matese, 20 mi north of Caserta. Rail terminal; paper & cotton mills, macaroni factory, hydroelectric power plant)

I vaguely remember my parents speaking about working in either the paper or cotton mills. I also recall my parents telling us that two of my fathers bro's went to S.A. [South America] I think the city was Rio De Janero. [Note: it was Buenos Aires]

There were three sisters, my mother MARY a sister PEPINA, and I think the others name was MARCELLINA, their maiden name was Saco.

One sister, PEPINA married a man named D'ALLESANDRO. They had two sons, one I know was named ADOLF. Mr. D'ALLESANDRO operated an exclusive custom made men's tailoring shop. The other sisters' husbands were employed by him as tailors.

AUNT MARCELLINA'S family lived in two homes in the Bronx, N.Y., one family was named COSENTINO and they lived at 918 E. 218 St., the other family was headed by ANTHONY DIMAIO at 943 E. 219 St.

They were living on *via Sorgente*, which runs next to the *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore* at the north end of town, when EMILIA was born in 1881 and Giuseppe, 23, was a *fabbro ferrera*, both translating as *blacksmith*. Three years later when GAETANINA was born, they were lived at 78 *via Annunziata*, a main thoroughfare and GIUSEPPE is a laborer while MARIA is *la donna di casa* or *the woman of the house*.⁶ They were back on *via Sorgente*, at number 12, by

⁵ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, Matrimonio, 1880, No. 29. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

1887 (DAVIDE's birth) and they were still there in 1890 (ALFONSO's birth). GIUSEPPE was a blacksmith according to birth certificates and this is the occupation listed on the ship's manifest and was the occupation their daughter JULIA remembered in later years in conversations with own children. She also remembered being told by her father that he sometimes shod horses. The Caserta military authorities could find no record of military service for GIOVANNI when asked in 1998.

GIUSEPPE and a MARIA left Piedimonte d'Alife in December 1892 and made their way to Naples where they boarded the Anchor Line's *S.S. California* on the 13th. MARIA was 6 months pregnant when she boarded and nearing 7 when she disembarked and the children ranged from 2 to 11. The 3,287 gross ton ship was built in 1872, measured 361.5 feet long and 40.5 feet at its widest, originally had one funnel and three masts (rigged for sail), iron construction, single screw and a speed of 13 knots. Prior to being rebuilt in 1881 there was accommodation for one



hundred fifty 1st-class, eighty 2nd and seven hundred 3rd-class passengers which was increased to twelve hundred during the rebuild. The single screw engine was replaced with twin screw engines and it was re-designated the *T.S.S. California*. A second funnel was added while the center mast was removed. 575 of the 658 passengers on this voyage were in 3rd-class. They were the only family from Piedimonte d'Alife on the ship, and GIUSEPPE's occupation is given as a *smith*. He and MARIA each brought one piece of baggage. While the ages are close on the *List of Passengers* they're not exact. 'GELSOMINA,' the oldest at eight-and-a-half years is assumed to be GAETANINA, as EMILIA, seven years and three months, is correctly named. DAVIDE follows as five years and three months, and, in the oddest turn, ALFONSO is listed as *ALFONSINA*, a one year, five month old infant girl! The family arrived at Ellis Island on 5 January 1893.⁷

They first moved to Manhattan's *Little Italy* where they lived at 66 Bayard Street. Three months after arriving, MARIA had a little girl on 3 April 1893. The birth certificate gives her name as MARIA MADDALENA in one place and MELI MADDALENA in another.⁸ In 1894 the Sanborn map shows the street extending past Bowery to the Lower East Side, ending where Division Street meets Eldridge which nearly doubles its current length; now Baxter ends at Bowery. The area was notorious for its saloons and crime rate. Bayard Street had a notorious

⁶ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1884, No. 133. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1621 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

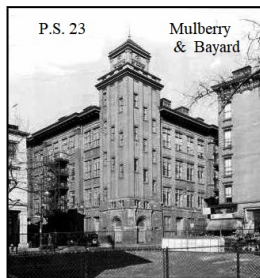
⁷ List of Passengers, District of the City of New York, Port of New York, 5 January 1893, *Str. California*, passenger numbers 615-620.

⁸ Certificate and Record of Live Birth #13584, Borough of Manhattan, City, County, and State of New York. 10 April 1893, Informant: Chiara Rosiere, 48 Mulberry Street.

tight house where women danced with customers while wearing only neck-to-toe tights, and did more for their customers wearing less in the back rooms. Two nearby brothels were at 28 Bayard Street, run by CHARLES PRIEN, a gray-haired, Civil War veteran; and another two doors down was operated by RHODA SANFORD, a fifty-five year old *bottle-blond*. The area was within the old 11th Police Precinct with the station house at 105-107 Eldridge Street.

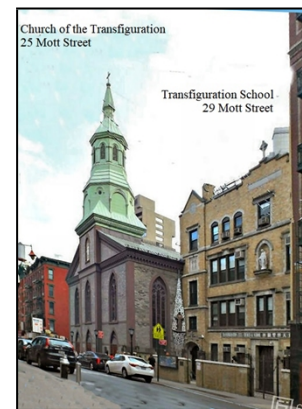
By 1895 GIUSEPPE and MARIA moved to another Italian section on the Upper Eastside where they lived with MARIA'S sisters PEPINA and ADELINA at 417 East 114th Street. In the 1896-97 New York City directory, JOSEPH is found as a *motorman*.⁹ As such he would have worked within the mass transit trolley system or with the elevated cars. JOSEPH was employed as a *buttonhole maker* in 1900, possibly by his brother-in-law NICOLA D'ALESSANDRO.¹⁰

By October 1901 the MADDALENA family had moved from East 114th Street to 2199 First Avenue where their son JOHN was born. As their nineteen-year-old daughter EMILIA was living at this address in December 1900, it is likely the family had moved before EMILIA'S wedding since it was unheard of to have a single daughter not living with her family until she married. As mentioned, their eldest daughters married the ACOLIA brothers, one in December 1900 and the other in February 1901.



It is likely MAMIE, DAVIDE, and KATIE went to Public School 23 or Transfiguration (RC) Parish School at 29 Mott Street while they lived on Bayard Street. P.S. 23 opened in 1891 at the corner of Bayard and Mulberry with a student body allegedly speaking nearly 2 dozen languages. Transfiguration opened in 1832 as free school for children of immigrants. On the Upper Eastside,

P.S. 85 at East 117th Street & First Avenue and P.S. 57 at 176 East 115th Street were nearby as were two Catholic schools: Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic School (elementary) at 232 East 113th Street and Saint Paul (RC) School at 114 East 118th Street. The Church of Our Lady opened in 1886 with the school following in 1892; while the Church closed in 2007, the school remains open. Saint Paul's School opened in 1877 under the Sisters of Charity.



Two Italian festivals in Harlem that they undoubtedly participated in were the *Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel* on July 16th. The highlight is the parading of the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel wearing her \$8,000.00 robes of silk and jewels carried aloft while hoards pin money to it. A ritual has wax limbs being laid on the Church's altar. Then in August is the *Giglio di San Antonio* in August on 106th Street. A *Giglio* is a 75 to 85 foot wooden structure, covered with papier-mâché built to honor SAINT ANTONIO which functions as the parade's center-piece.

⁹ Trow's New York City Directory For The Year Ending July 1, 1897, Vol. CX, p.939 (NYC: Trow's Directory, Printing and Bookbinding Co.); City Directories of the United States, Sequence 3, 1882-1901, New York, NY, Research Publications, Reel No. 15 of 20.

¹⁰ 1900 US Census: New York County, N.Y., Borough of Manhattan, 12th Ward, 5 June 1900, Enumeration District 927, p. 8, family 143, lines 72-79; and 1930 U.S. Census: New York County, N.Y., Manhattan Township; Enumeration District 1123, page 5A, lines 19 – 21.

The next three sections concern families that are related to GIOVANNI and MARIA by blood or by marriage.

NICOLA D'ALESSANDO and GIUSEPPINA SACCO¹¹

GIUSEPPINA, born December 1869, left Italy in her early teens. What she did and where she lived is unknown at this time but she met and married NICOLA D'ALLESANDRO, born 16 June 1877, on 12 June 1898 and started a family. PEPINA became a naturalized citizen in 1900 at the *United States District Court for the Southern District of New York* in Manhattan and NICOLA followed suit in 1903. In the New York State Census of 1925 it was reported as being at the *Bronx Court* but a review of records found that he filed his Petition in 1903 at the *United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York* (Vol. 44, # 133). By 1900 NICOLA and GIUSEPPINA owned the building at 417 East 114th Street which provided homes for 17 families including PEPINA's sisters MARIA MATELENA and ADELINA DE MAIO. NICOLA was a tailor, a profession he would stay with the rest of his life. They moved to the adjoining building at 419 East 114th Street before 1905 which had 7 families, including ADELINA DE MAIO. NICOLA would later buy this building between 1915 and 1920. NICOLA first appears in the New York Telephone Directory in 1909 working at 2157 First Avenue. By 1910 they had had 7 children but only 2 were living; the

¹¹ The information concerning Giuseppina Sacco D'Alessandro and Adelina Sacco De Maio came from census returns (Online database at Ancestry.com), city and telephone directories (Digital versions available at Archive.org) and World War I Registration Cards (Online database at Ancestry.com). They are grouped together by subject.

1905 New York State Census: Manhattan, New York City, New York County, Election District 11, Assembly District 33, 1 June 1905, p. 140, lines 32 – 34; and p. 141, lines 1 – 6.

1915 New York State Census: Manhattan, New York City, New York County, Election District 11, Assembly District 28, 1 June 1915, p. 87, lines 47 – 50; and p. 88, lines 1 – 3; and p. 281, lines 48 .

1925 New York State Census: Manhattan Borough, New York City, New York County, Election District 33, Assembly District 8, 1 June 1925, p. 79, lines 37 – 41; and Bronx Borough , New York City, New York County, Election District 79, Assembly District 18, 2 June 1925, p. 12, line 50; and p. 13, lines 1 - 3.

1900 U.S. Census: Manhattan Borough, New York City, New York, Ward 12, 5 June 1900, sheet 8B, Enumeration District 0927, dwelling 22, family 142, lines 68 -71; family 143, lines 72 – 79; and family 144, lines 80 – 82.

1910 U.S. Census: Manhattan Borough, New York City, New York, Ward AD18, 6 January 1930, sheet 7A, Enumeration District 1303, dwelling 12, family 107, lines 19 – 23; and Ward 12, 27 April 1910, sheet 25A, Enumeration District 290, dwelling 48, family 490, lines 25 - 28.

1930 U.S. Census: Bronx Borough, New York City, New York, Ward AD6, 14 April 1930, sheet 2A, Enumeration District 3-480, dwelling 12, family 26, lines 22 – 29; and Manhattan Borough, New York City, New York, Ward AD23, 6 April 1930, sheet 5A, Enumeration District 31-1123, family 129, lines 19 – 21.

Trow General Directory for the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx (Trow Publishing) 1908, p. 360; 1910, p. 316; 1911, p. 319; 1912, p. 335; and 1917 p. 597.

Trow Business Directory for the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx (Trow Publishing) 1914, p. 274.

Trow's General Directory for the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx (R. Polk and Sons Publishing) 1922, p. 567.

New York Telephone Directory (New York Telephone Company) 1909, p. 84; May and October 1910, p. 91; February 1915, p. 137; and October 1917, p. 139.

World War Registration Card, Nicola D'Alessandro, Serial No. 3104, Order No. A2135 and Anthony DeMaio (son of Pietro) Serial No. 4403, Order No. A178, 12 September 1918.

names of 3 have been found. In 1910 and 1914 he was a tailor at 2306 First Avenue afterwards returning to the 2157 First Avenue address. In 1910 he briefly branched out into *paints* at 215 East 111th which may have been in conjunction with a neighbor at 421 East 114th Street, and possible relative, ALFONSO D'ALESSANDRO. Around 1922 the family moved to a single-family home at 264 East 205th Street in the Bronx. ALBERTO was a college student in 1925 and ADOLFO went into the engraving business. PEPINA died on 21 October 1925 at home and was buried 3 days later in the *Gate of Heaven Cemetery*. NICOLA, with son ADOLFO, moved to 815 East 181st Street which he rented for \$120.00 a month. In 1930 his 32-year-old French niece HENRIETTA MONTGUILBY, a *designer*, was living with her uncle and cousin where she was a dressmaker. (See *biography of GAETANO SACCO and MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO for additional information.*)

PIETRO DE MAIO and ADELINA SACCO

ROSARIA ADELINA SACCO married PIETRO DE MAIO on 15 June 1874 in Piedimonte d'Alife. PIETRO was a 23-year-old barber from the *quartiere Porto* in Naples. The records give a range from 1881 to 1893 for when they left Italy. They emigrated probably in the early 1890s as all 6 of their children were born in New York. Once in the city, they lived in the same building as ADELINA'S sister PEPINA D'ALESSANDRO at 417 East 114th Street in 1900, with their sister MARIA MADDALENA, and at 419 East 114th Street by 1905. PIETRO became a shoemaker once in Manhattan which he stayed with until his death between 1915 and 1920. Their son *ANTHONY* was a men's tailor who bought a house in the Bronx at 943 East 219th Street where he moved not only his wife and children but his mother, and his siblings *MARGARET* and *CHARLES*. *MARGARET* went into bookbinding and *CHARLES* went into printing. Their brother *JAMES*, formerly *VINCENZO*, also went into printing and lived at 927 East 219th Street with his wife. (See *biography of GAETANO SACCO and MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO for additional information.*)

Famiglia di RAFFAELA ACOLIA

Living nearby was the family of MARIA ANTONIA DiMURO and RAFAELE ACOLIA at 2164 Second Avenue. RAFAELE was a shoemaker as were his sons before moving to Trenton. They had 6 children, 5 made the trans-Atlantic move. RAFAELE was born in Atella, Potenza, Italy on 2 February 1848. He and his 12 year old son ANTONIO arrived in New York aboard the *S.S. Cheribon* on 16 October 1886.¹² This was her first New York voyage and the only one to stop at Algiers. The ship left Marseilles on 17 September 1886, headed to Naples and Algiers before embarking for New York. His son MICHELE was born on 16 January 1887, after RAFAELE left Atella. RAFAELLA must have returned to Atella in 1890 since MARIA was pregnant with a daughter for most of 1891. MICHELE would meet his father again in Manhattan in 1897 when he was 10. Three ACOLIA marriages would affect the MADDALENA family: GIUSEPPE and ANTHONY, sons of RAFAELE, became sons-in-law to GIUSEPPE and MARIA



¹² List of Passengers, District of the City of New York, Port of New York, 16 October 1886, *Str. Cheribon*, numbers 385-6.

when they married their two eldest girls. RAFAELE's daughter ROSINA married Trenton-native VINCENZO CAREVELLO, which could have been the link that introduced the MADDALENA family to Trenton. As there is no evidence that VINCENZO and ROSINA actually lived in Trenton, opting for Manhattan at first, and then moving out of the city at a later date, this seems an unlikely way for them to learn of Trenton. MARIA joined her husband and children sometime after the birth of GIULIETTA in November 1891 but she died before 1900.

The widowed RAFAELE ACOLIA is the head of a household in 1900 that included his sons ANTONIO, 26, GIUSEPPE, 24, and MICHELE, 13, a daughter ROSIE, 20, and his nephews GIUSEPPE H. ACOLIA, 25 and LUIGI ACOLIA, 16.¹³ It is not known where his daughter GIULIETTA was at this time. On 11 June 1900 his daughter ROSINA married VINCENZO CAREVELLO of Trenton, New Jersey. ROSINA was living with or next to the family at 2166 Second Avenue and the marriage was performed by ALDERMAN JAMES J. SMITH of 283 Monroe Street.¹⁴ They had a son VINCENZO on 5 October 1906; he died 30 May 1991 in Stonington, New London County, Connecticut. ROSINA died 19 September 1938 in Kings County, New York. On 2 December 1900 ANTONIO ACOLIA (25 years old, from Atella, Italy) son of RAFAELE ACOLIA and MARIA ANTONIA DIMURO, married the MADDALENA's eldest daughter EMILIA.¹⁵ Three months later GIUSEPPE ACOLIA (born March 1876, Atella, Italy) another son of RAFAELE and MARIA married GIUSEPPE and MARIA's second eldest daughter GAETANINA on 22 February 1901 in New York City.

RAFAELE moved to Trenton sometime in the following decade. Once in Trenton, his teenage daughter GIULIETTA ACOLIA, now *JULIA*, reappears. JULIA married ANGELO M. CRISTIANI (CHRISTIAN) in December 1909; he was born c1880, a barber. Their home in 1910 was 565 North Clinton Street and in 1930 at 34 Sherman Way, both in Trenton. They had five children: JOSEPHINE (1912), JOSEPH (1916), RALPH (1915), ANTOINETTE (1918) and ANTHONY (1921).¹⁶ ANGELO died 4 January 1965 and JULIA on 2 May 1974; both were buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*.¹⁷ RAFAELE ACOLIA died in Trenton on 25 November 1926 and was buried in *Holy Sepulchre Cemetery* in Trenton. His obituary does not mention his daughter ROSINA CAREVELLO; his sons JOSEPH and MICHAEL and his daughter JULIA CHRISTIANO (*sic*) are named as his survivors.¹⁸ ROSINA was living in New York when her father passed away. His headstone in *Greenwood Cemetery* is carved RALPH ACOLIA, 1848 – 1921; it is not known why the year of death is 5 years earlier than it should be.

THE ROAD TO TRENTON

¹³ 1900 US Census: New York County, NY, Borough of Manhattan, 12th ward, Vol. 177, ED 921, sheet 4, lines 52-58.

¹⁴ Certificate of marriage, Manhattan Bureau of Vital Statistics, Number 11351, recorded 7 July 1900.

¹⁵ Manhattan Marriage Certificate # 20938.

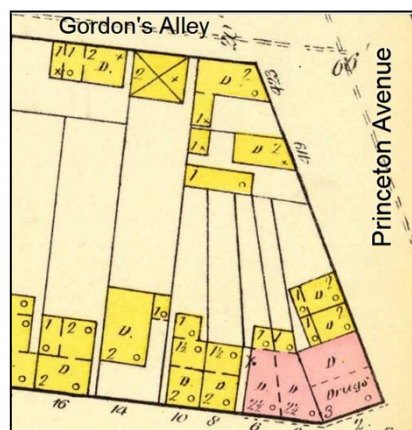
¹⁶ 1910 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 5th Ward, ED 65, sheet 14A, lines 6-7 and 1930 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 8th Ward, block 320, ED 11-35, sheet 23A, lines 12-18.

¹⁷ (*Trenton*)*Evening Times*, 5 January 1965, p. 4, column 3 [and] 2 May 1974, p. 4, column 2

¹⁸ *Trenton Evening Times*, 27 November 1926, p. 2, column 6

They decided to move to Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey shortly after the birth of JOHN in 1901, definitely no later than November 1902. They made the oldest of Trenton's Italian neighborhoods which was near the Battle Monument their home. Many families of Italian descent moved here first, before moving to the more affluent Italian neighborhoods in Chambersburg and North Trenton. This section of town saw the first kindergarten classes, also known as Reception Grade, offered in the area during 1901 at 109 Butler Street. This "Italian section" was soon hit by a smallpox epidemic which forced the kindergarten to relocate to East Trenton Presbyterian Chapel in January 1902.¹⁹

They moved to 419 Princeton Avenue between Pennington and Gordon Avenues, which is where JOSEPH is first found in the 1903 Trenton City directory as an ironworker.²⁰ Their son DAVIDE was killed in May 1903 when he fell under a moving train. JOSEPH applied for citizenship status, signing his Declaration of Intentions on 6 November 1903. He spelled his surname *MADELENA* and gives the 419 Princeton Avenue address as his home.²¹ They claimed to have purchased a 7-room frame house and lot at 13 Fountain Avenue, just a few blocks away, sometime shortly after this for \$3300.00, with an \$1800.00 mortgage.²² However, a review of County property records has not turned up any supporting documents. The family did have use of the house for quite a number of years but the first mention of it in records pertaining to the *MATELENA*'S is not until 1922 when their son ALBERT lived there with his wife DOROTHY supposedly paying his parents \$45.00 a month. They moved out in 1924 but seem to have kept renting the place as in 1925 and 1926 ALBERT rented the upstairs to his younger brother JOHN and his wife JOSEPHINE. The three-story brick building was built in 1891 and is not found in the 1930 Federal Census. The house next door at 15 Fountain Avenue was also a *MATELENA* home – daughter JULIA was there in 1924 and son FRANK occupied it in 1928 and 1929.



By 1905 JOSEPH and MARY were running a small Italian grocery store and fruit stand out of the front of 419 Princeton Avenue which they continued to do until 1907. In 1890 the lot is shown as holding 3 separate buildings (*left*): a two-story structure fronting on Princeton and two single story structures in the rear, one presumably being an outhouse. Only the two-story street front structure is shown on the 1908 Sanford fire maps. In the 1906 city directory JOSEPH is listed as a laborer, but returns in 1907 as a produce dealer. During this same time the *ACOLIA* family lived nearby. Living next

door at 421 Princeton was MICHAEL *ACOLIA*, a barber and on the corner at Gordon's Alley, were

¹⁹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 5 June 1909, "Miss Metcalf Pioneer Kindergartner in Trenton," p. 2.

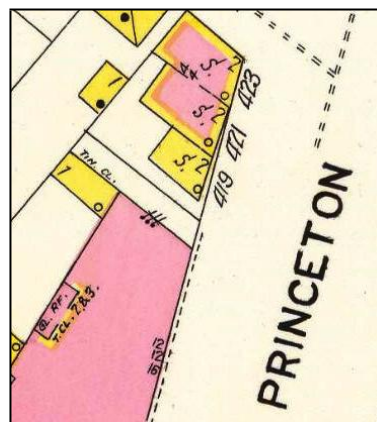
²⁰ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1903, p.524; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ); available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

²¹ Declaration of Intention, Joseph Madelena; Mercer Co., NJ, Vol. 7, p. 105; available at NJ Archives, 185 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625; and 1910 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 7th Ward, 22 April 1910, p.13B, family 292, lines 92-97; LDS microfilm #T624, roll 897, ED 72.

²² Veteran's Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.

their daughter KATIE, her husband JOSEPH ACOLIA, and their three children: ETTA, RAFAELE, and ROSIE. JOSEPH, a shoemaker, owned the building on the corner, 423 Princeton Avenue.²³ Their father, RAFAELE ACOLIA, was up the street making shoes at 514 Princeton Avenue. Their daughter MAMIE and her husband ANTONIO ACOLIA, another son of RAFAELE, lived at 1215 South Clinton Avenue while he worked, as a shoemaker, just down the street at 1204 South Clinton Avenue.²⁴

JOSEPH and MARY moved into the 421 Princeton Avenue building in 1907. Trenton property records conflict with the Sanford fire maps on the 421 Princeton Avenue building. The 1890 Sanford map shows an empty lot between 419 and 423 (*left*) while Trenton property records list the building as a two-story frame building with two rooms on each floor built in 1861. Why the building does not appear on the 1890 map is not known but the building was definitely there. It measured 14.28 X 38 feet and had 1092 square feet. The next set of Sanborn fire maps (*right*) are from 1908 and they show the building which is described as having two rooms on the first floor, one being the produce market, and two rooms on the second floor; fire maps show there to be a doorway on the second floor that connected 421 and 423 Princeton. There was no heat, other than the stove, and no indoor bathroom though no outlying building is shown on maps. It had a flat tin roof that must have been noisy during rain.²⁵ The 419



Princeton Avenue building was probably similar in structure, smaller in size, and in worse condition as it had been torn down between 1910 and 1915. They were first listed as *confectioners* then produce dealers and they continued to be listed as such until 1925. MICHAEL and ANTHONY ACOLIA appear at 423 Princeton Avenue as a barber and a shoemaker respectfully.²⁶ MICHAEL ACOLIA, *the well known barber of 28 Chapel Avenue* married MARY SISTI. She was a neighbor and the daughter of yet another shoemaker. She lived at 429 Princeton Avenue with her parents ANTONIO and MARIA SISTI and several siblings. They were married on the 11th of June 1911 at Saint Joachim's Roman Catholic Church. Participating in the service was the RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR POZZI, Miss MILLIE COMMUNI as maid-of-honor, and *a cousin of the*

²³ 1905 NJ State Census: Trenton, Mercer County, 7th Ward, sheet 13A, families 266, 275 – 277, dwellings 255, 262 – 264, lines 3 – 9, 36 – 47, 6 June 1905.

²⁴ Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1905, pp.84, 554; 1906, p.599; 1907, pp. 88,155,615; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ) available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ; and 1905 Census of the State of New Jersey; Trenton, Mercer County, 7th Ward, 3rd precinct, sheet 13A, family nos. 274, 275 and 276, dwelling nos. 262, 263 and 264, line nos. 36 to 47, 6 June 1905.

²⁵ Tax Assessment Document, City of Trenton, 421 Princeton Avenue, 3 August 1936; at Trenton Public Library, Academy St., Trenton, NJ.

²⁶ Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1908, pp.63, 620; 1909, pp.94, 646; 1910, pp.109, 703; 1911, pp.93, 567; 1912, pp.88, 207, 601; 1913, pp.68, 88, 613; 1914, pp.83, 99, 629; 1915, pp.103, 666; 1916, pp.104, 683; 1917, pp.106, 737; 1918, pp.106, 736; 1919, pp.106, 615; 1920, pp.110, 610; 1921, pp.115, ?; 1922 pp.118, 151, 614; 1923, pp.119, 619; 1924 pp.100, 215, 701; 1925, pp.11, 648; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ); Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

bridegroom, ANTHONY ACOLIA, as best-man. After marrying they lived with the bride's family at first.²⁷ According to the 1905 census referenced above, there was an 11-year age difference between them with MICHAEL being 26 and MARY just 15.

Trenton also had several *feste* that celebrated the Italian heritage. The two largest were:

- *Feste di San Giuseppe*: "In Trenton, the *Feast of Saint Joseph* celebrated every March 19th, manifested itself in the creation of a "*tavola di San Giuseppe*," or *Saint Joseph's Table*. This table, set by individual families as thanks for answering a prayer in times of crisis, consisted of exotic vegetables, fruits, flowers, and candles. Also integral to the table were specially baked breads by a local bakery in various forms such as *Saint Joseph's Bread*, *Saint Joseph's Staff*, *Baby Jesus*, and *The Madonna*."²⁸
- *Feast of Lights*: The Società di San Felese of New Jersey, sponsor of the *Feast of San Rocco* in Manhattan, was a driving force behind the founding of a Roman Catholic Church for Trenton's growing Italian community: Saint Joachim's in Chambersburg. In 2005 this Church was merged with the Church of the Immaculate Conception and renamed Our Lady of the Angels Parish. Saint Joachim's was the Church affiliated with the *Festival of Lights*. Also known as the *Feast of the Madonna* and the *Feast of Lights*, the street celebration was first held on August 15th, the *Feast of the Assumption*, in 1906. The parade, the *Procession of the Madonna*, began at the Church with the wooden statue of the Blessed Mother followed by a huge rosary carried by the "women of the Fraternity of Saint Clare."

These have been supplanted by Trenton's annual Italian Heritage festival.

Saint Mary's Cathedral, nearby on Warren Street, operated the Cathedral School which included Cathedral High School. The children attended here as three are found on the monthly Honor Roll lists published in the local newspaper. JULIA is on the Honor Roll during 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades in 1906 through 1910; ALBERT during the same years for 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades; and JOHN from 1909 through 1912 for Reception grade, 1st, 2nd and 4th grades. JOHN soon transferred to Joseph Wood Public School where he is made the 8th grade honor roll in 1916.²⁹

On 19 October 1909 JOSEPH joined the Woodmen of the World, a mutual benefit organization, as JOSEPH MADELENA. Around this time his health began to deteriorate and he was diagnosed with diabetes.

By 1912, the 421 Princeton Avenue property was owned by KATIE and her husband JOSEPH ACOLIA (ALBERT MATELENA'S Veteran's Administration records state that his sister EMILIA owned the property) who leased it to JOSEPH and MARY. The lease was dated 17 September 1912, began the 1st of October, and ran for three years. It was recorded with Mercer

²⁷ *Trenton Evening Times*. "Acolia-Sisti" (Trenton, NJ) 12 June 1911.

²⁸ Tavola di San Giuseppe at the home of Giuseppe Immordino, Trenton, 1946. Rutgers Community Repository, The New Jersey Historical Society

²⁹ *Trenton Evening Times*; "Cathedral School Honor Roll lists" Trenton, NJ; 6 March 1906 (Julia and Albert), 2 November 1906 (Julia), 5 December 1906 (Julia), 7 December 1906 (Julia and Albert), 8 February 1908 (Albert), 5 December 1908 (Julia), 2 April 1909 (John), 5 June 1909 (Albert), 7 February 1910 (Julia), 7 March 1910 (Albert and John), 4 April 1910 (Albert), 10 April 1911 (John), 12 June 1912 (John), 18 June 1913 (John), 10 May 1916 (John).

County on 4 November 1912.³⁰ Monthly rent was \$18.00 and JOSEPH and MARY could transfer the lease of *the stone and dwelling house* to any other party of good reputation, for same purpose and business as it is now used, but to one family only, which is not permitted to keep boarders. JOSEPH bought the 5-room frame house from KATIE and JOSEPH on 3 December 1914 for \$1850.00, assuming the balance of \$1250.00 still owed on their mortgage.³¹ The 1915 State Census shows that JOSEPH is still not naturalized and working as a shopkeeper while MARY is a housewife. Their daughter JULIA is a saleslady, son ALBERT (enumerated as *ROBERT*) is a barber and son JOHN a student at Joseph Wood Public school on Academy Street between Broad and



Montgomery. MICHAEL and MARIE ACOLIA are next door at 423 Princeton Avenue where MICHAEL ran his barbershop.³² They had a daughter MARIE or AMELIA R. (born 1912) and a son MICHAEL R., JUNIOR (born 1914) who moved to Riverside, CA. They were living across the street from the barbershop in 1930 at 416 Princeton Avenue.³³ They returned to 423 and, in fact, MICHAEL and MARIE ACOLIA would be living there when MICHAEL died on 9 February 1957; he was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*.³⁴

After years of work in the grocery MARIA was suffering from *rheumatism and lumbago*. Their children helped them financially, especially ALBERT, as well as working in their store. JOSEPH and MARY used Trenton Trust and Safe Deposit as their bank.³⁵

JOSEPH'S health continued to deteriorate and he died of kidney disease, a complication of his diabetes, on 2 August 1925. Requiem

High Mass was at Saint Mary's Cathedral on 4 August 1925. His obituary states he *was a member of Woodsmen of the World*. It lists his six surviving children, three brothers and one sister: MARSHALL of West Haven, Connecticut, LOUIS and MICHAEL of Buenos Aires, South America and MRS. CONCETTA DEGNI of Italy; and *twenty grandchildren*.³⁶ He was buried in Section I of *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton.

After JOSEPH'S death, MARY continued to run the store for a couple of years but didn't live there any longer. She may have moved in with her son ALBERT at 851 Spruce Street around 1927, but she was living next door at 853 Spruce Street with PHILOMENA PACE, another 60-something Italian widow.³⁷ PHILOMENA owned both properties. The family tried to rent the

³⁰ Mercer County Special Docket, Volume V, page 306, 4 November 1912.

³¹ Mercer County Deeds, Volume 373, page 533, 3 December 1914.

³² 1915 New Jersey State Census: Trenton, Mercer Co, 7th Ward, sht 17A, fa. 390 - 391, dw . 348 - 349, lns 33-41, 7 June 1915.

³³ 1930 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 7th Ward, block 253, 8 April 1930, ED 11-29, sheet 7A, dwelling 123, family 131.

³⁴ *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 10 February 1957, part 3, p. 14, column 5

³⁵ Veteran's Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.

³⁶ "Deaths and Funerals," *Trenton Evening Times*, 3 August 1925, p.2, col.6 [and] "Joseph Matelena," *Trenton Evening Times*, 4 August 1925, p.2, col. 7 and p.17, col.1

³⁷ 1930 US Census, Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 8th Ward, block 326, 2 April 1930, ED 11-32, sht 2A, dw 26, fa 28, lines 35-36.

building for \$35.00 a month towards the end of 1928, with JULIA DEFILLIPS being the person to contact.³⁸ FRANK took over the produce market by 1928,³⁹ with ALBERT getting involved in 1929. She probably helped around the store over the next few years. In the 1930 telephone directory, MARY is shown at 421 Princeton Avenue with two phone numbers: 6477 and 2-5743.⁴⁰ In an amusing turn, she started running the Trent Cigar Store at 19 South Warren Street in 1935 and continued to do so in 1936.⁴¹ Owned by JAMES WILSON, the building was built in 1861 and the photo of it taken on 12 August 1936 may have had MARY working inside. In perhaps a revealing letter years later, this address is listed as one of the known book-making joints in the city.⁴² Pinpointing the cigar store has proved problematic as the city directories give its address as 19 North Warren Street (1932, 1933, 1935, 1936 & 1938) and 19 South Warren Street (1934). In 1935 and 1936 MARY is listed under Cigars and Tobacco at 19 South Warren Street while the Trent Cigar Store is at 19 North Warren Street. When the owner of 851 Spruce Street lost that property to foreclosure MARY moved with ALBERT to 22 Cavell Avenue in August 1937. It was at this time that the family gave up running a produce market. During 1932 and 1933 ALBERT ran a restaurant there. During 1935 PETER SOLAGARAS rented the building and ran a restaurant there; it was vacant in 1936; and FRANK DESTEFANO had a bookstore there in 1938.⁴³

A devout Catholic, MARY attended mass at Saint Mary's Cathedral every Sunday. She walked with her granddaughter ALBERTA the short distance between their home on Cavell Avenue and the North Warren Street Cathedral.⁴⁴ She was knocked down and by the "HILL" brothers who were playing basketball on 20 May 1943. She never recovered from the resulting fractured hip and died on 26 September 1943. She was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, next to her husband.⁴⁵ Her obituary in the *Trenton Times*, 27 September 1943, states she died as a result of a fractured hip, when, seventeen weeks earlier, she had been knocked down by a group of children playing ball. It mentions 3 sons, 2 daughters, and 23 *grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren*. No probate records for JOSEPH or MARY were filed.

The 421 Princeton Avenue property was forfeited due to unpaid taxes on 14 December 1945.⁴⁶ Ten years earlier the property had been designated as being in *bad* condition and it

³⁸ *Trenton Evening Times*, 30 November 1928

³⁹ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1926, p.667; 1927, p.658; 1928, p.670; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ); available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

⁴⁰ NJ Bell Telephone Directory, Summer 1930, p.45; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

⁴¹ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1935, pp.502, 1013; 1936, p.493; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ); available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ. Note in 1934 the cigar store was run by Max Rathouser (p.889) and in 1938 its address is given as 19 N. Warren St. and no mention of Mary is found (pp.19, 506) and the NJ Bell Telephone directory of 1936 also lists 19 N. Warren St. as the address (p.36)

⁴² Letter from Trenton Police Department to New Jersey Bell Telephone, 1947 found as an exhibit in the Dorothy Matelena versus Trenton Chief of Police Dooling lawsuit.

⁴³ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1932, p. 537; 1933, pp. 524, 900; 1934, p. 889; 1935, pp. 728, 949, 1013; 1936, pp. 493, 965; and 1938, pp. 113, 1950. See note 16

⁴⁴ 1940 US Census: Mercer County, New Jersey, Trenton, 7th Ward, 4 April 1940, ED 27-50, sheet 61A, lines 33.

⁴⁵ Saint Mary's Cemetery, Sect. K-110B, Olden Avenue, Trenton, NJ.

needed a large amount of work.⁴⁷ Most likely, the MATELENA heirs tried to sell the property without success and decided to let the City of Trenton take the property. It stood vacant through 1946 and was subsequently sold to ALEX GOLEMBREWSKI who made several improvements to the building. PETER J. ROSETTY opened a record store there by 1948 and sold it in 1955 or 1956 when the store became The Ace Record Shop. Ace operated there until it was destroyed by fire in the early 1960s. Next door at 423, formerly ACOLIA'S Barbershop, the building was condemned and both structures razed.⁴⁸ The record store relocated nearby at 435 Princeton Avenue.

Issue:⁴⁹

- 1) EMILIA "MAMIE" MATELENA: birth year is sometimes given as 1880, but her birth record states 5 August 1881. She worked as a tobacco stripper in 1900. She married ANTONIO ACOLIA (born circa 1875), son of RAFAELLE and MARIA on 2 December 1900. EMILIA was living at 2197 First Avenue and ANTONIO at 307 East 111th Street. Witnesses were GIOVANNI and LUCIA SESSA and the ceremony was performed by the Roman Catholic Priest JOSEPH TRANSERICI of 447 East 115th Street.⁵⁰ While not definite, FATHER TRANSERICI was probably affiliated with the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church, located at 448 East 116th Street as the two structures would be adjacent in the back of the properties. They probably moved to Trenton when both sets of parents did in 1902. By 1907 they bought a house at 1215 South Clinton Avenue where they lived for the next twenty years at least. ANTONIO was a shoemaker and had his own shop at 1204 South Clinton Avenue.⁵¹ That he was well-known is indicated by the following item reported on 26 January

1913 in the *Trenton Evening Times*: "ANTHONY ACOLIA... of South Clinton Avenue, visited friends in Cumberlville Sunday." In 1915, ANTONIO and MAMIE are found in the eleventh ward with their four sons attending Franklin Public School.⁵³ ANTONIO was involved with Kent Camp No. 49 of the Woodmen of the World; the picture is from an article in the *Trenton Evening Times* about their Fourth Annual Ball held on Thursday, 28 October 1915.⁵⁴

⁴⁶ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 904, p. 549, Mercer County Court House, So. Broad St., Trenton, (and) *Trenton Evening Times*, 31 May 1945, p. 12, col. 2.

⁴⁷ Tax Assessment Document, City of Trenton, 421 Princeton Avenue, 3 August 1936; at Trenton Public Library, Academy St., Trenton, NJ.

⁴⁸ Fitzgerald's *Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1948, p. 128 and 1955, p. 168. See note 16. Communication with Dawn Purcell-Musgrave, daughter of Ace's owner, The Trenton We Remember FaceBook group, 5 March 2018.

⁴⁹ Information on children mostly obtained through conversations and correspondence with Tony DeSilva, Morrisville, Pa., Marie Nabinger, Trenton, NJ and John Matelena, Trenton, NJ. Information pertaining to Catherine Maddalena Acolia also obtained from the Applegate Home Page on the internet.

⁵⁰ Certificate of marriage, Manhattan Bureau of Vital Statistics, Number 20938, recorded 14 December 1900.

⁵¹ Fitzgerald's *Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1905, and 1905 Census of the State of New Jersey, see note 19

⁵² *Trenton Evening Times*, 29 January 1913, page 12.

⁵³ 1915 New Jersey State Census: Trenton, Mercer Co, 2nd pct, 11th Ward, sht 9B, fa. 222, dw. 200, line 73-78, 8 June 1915.

⁵⁴ *Trenton Evening Times*, 27 October 1915.

In the 1915 state census another ANTONIO ACOLIA is found at 1127 South Clinton Street. Born in Italy in February 1884, he emigrated in 1901 and was a barber. His wife CARMELA was born in July 1894 in Italy; she emigrated in 1897. They had two children: JOSEPH, born June 1912 and MARY, born December 1914. This may be the nephew that was living with RAFAELLE in Manhattan in 1900.

ANTONIO emigrated in 1886, according to the 1920 census, and both were still aliens.⁵⁵ ANTONIO was a member of several fraternal organizations: Sons of Italy post 71, Woodmen of the World post 49, the International Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons and the Shriners. He died from a sudden heart attack on 30 December 1921 and was buried in *Greenwood Cemetery*.⁵⁶ His father RALPH was buried in the same cemetery in 1926. In the 1924 Trenton city directory are found M. ACOLIA, widow of ANTONIO, and her sons RAFFAEL ACOLIA, book-keeper, and FRANK and JOSEPH ACOLIA, clerks at 1215 South Clinton.⁵⁷ MAMIE married again to ANTHONY PITTARO before 1930. In the Federal Census of that year MAMIE PITTARO is shown living with her sons FRANK, JOSEPH and JOHN ACOLIA at 418 Norway Avenue in Hamilton Township.⁵⁸ In 1940 MAMIE PITTARO, 56, married is found as head of a household numbering just 1 at 1215 South Clinton; also at this address is her son JOSEPH who is similarly listed.⁵⁹ Meanwhile, at 239 Butler Avenue is the married ANTHONY PITTARO, 63, living there without his wife. When the family forfeited the 421 Princeton Avenue property to the City of Trenton in 1945, all of JOSEPH and MARY's living heirs including *AMELIA PITARO and ANTHONY PITARO, her husband* were listed.⁶⁰ EMILIA was living at 412 Grand Street when she took ill in August 1962. She died 17 September 1962 and was buried with her first husband in *Greenwood Cemetery*. Her obituary is headlined *MRS. AMELIA ACOLIA* and states she is the *wife of ANTHONY ACOLIA* – there is no reference to her second husband.⁶¹ In the cemetery there is a large marker with both of their names and those of their son JOHN and his wife JULIA as well as a second stone with only ANTONIO's name.



- a) RALPH ACOLIA: born 5 September 1901, a barber in 1920, married GRACE CELLA (born 1903), daughter of PASQUALE and CARMELA, on 11 August 1923 at Immanuel Presbyterian Church; they first lived with GRACE's parents at 345 Hamilton Avenue for several years. Still at this address in 1930, RALPH was a warehouseman for an oil

⁵⁵ 1920 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, Vol. 79, ED 95, Sheet 2, Line 90.

⁵⁶ *Trenton Evening Times*, 31 December 1921, page 2.

⁵⁷ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1908 through 1925. See note 16

⁵⁸ 1930 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Hamilton Township, ED 11-81, sheet 17B, lines 96 -100.

⁵⁹ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-96, p 1B

⁶⁰ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 904, p.549. See note 32 .

⁶¹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 19 September 1962, p. B4, column 1

company.⁶² They moved to Bordentown, New Jersey in 1957. RALPH died 17 April 1987 and GRACE died 25 July 1991; both buried at *Greenwood Cemetery*.

i) GEORGE R. ACOLIA: born 28 May 1924. He had completed one year of college and was employed as a shipping and receiving clerk at the time of his enlistment in the US Army as a Private on 22 May 1943; he served from 5 June 1943 to 14 January 1946. Wife: CAMILLE ?, live at 51 Beechwood, Washington Township, New Jersey. He died 15 February 2004.

(1) GEORGE (name given as GEOFFREY in mother's obituary?) D. ACOLIA: lives at 48 Hinkle Drive, Bordentown, NJ

(a) HEATHER ACOLIA: living in Virginia Beach, VA in 1991

b) JOSEPH ACOLIA: born 19 November 1904. In 1930 he was living with his brother FRANK on Norway Avenue and working at a roller bearing company. He and his wife were living at the 1215 South Clinton Avenue address of his mother for several years in the 1930s. He married ANGELINA (born 1912) and lived at 210 Samdin Boulevard, Trenton. JOSEPH died 26 December 1982 and was buried in *Greenwood Cemetery*.

i) AMELIA ACOLIA: born 14 May 1936. Married JOHN TUSILLO, owned Jerry's Restaurant in Trenton at Kuser Road and Hamilton Avenue in the 1990s,

ii) LUCY ACOLIA: married PETER?, live in Chambersburg section of Trenton.

c) FRANK ACOLIA: born 8 January 1906. Married ISABEL ? (born 2 June 1907) circa 1930. They lived at 418 Norway Avenue in Hamilton Township where he managed a dry goods store and his wife was the book keeper as found in the 1930 Federal Census referenced previously. They moved to 581 Hutchinson Street by 1940.⁶³ ISABEL died April 1986 in Trenton followed by FRANK on 9 September 1987; buried in *Greenwood Cemetery*.

i) JAMES ACOLIA: Owned 3 Sunoco Gas stations in Trenton: one at Sullivan Way & Route 29, one on South Broad Street across from McDonald's and the third on East State Street Extension. 4 sons:

(1) JAMES ACOLIA, JUNIOR: born 1969

(2) JEFF ACOLIA: born 1970

(3) RICH ACOLIA: born 1971

(4) RANDY ACOLIA: born 1973

d) JOHN G. ACOLIA: born 9 September 1909. In 1930 he was living with his brother FRANK on Norway Avenue and working as a shipping clerk in the dry goods store managed by his brother. He was still working as a department store clerk in 1940 but was living at 1724 South Clinton Street.⁶⁴ His wife's name was JULIA CARTER and both died in 1977; JOHN on 17 October in Trenton; both are buried in *Greenwood Cemetery* with his parents.

i) DONALD G. ACOLIA: TCHS class of 1965; Sergeant in U.S. Air Force served in Vietnam; employed at U.S. Steel and Stroehman Bakery. Married to LINDA LONG in 1968 and lived at 41 Thoreau Road, Trenton. DONALD died 5 July 2005 and was entombed at Saint Mary's Mausoleum, Trenton.

⁶² 1930 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 10th Ward, block 385, ED 11-46, sht 16A, lines 97 – 100 and sht 4A, lines 38 – 43.

⁶³ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Hamilton Township, ED 11-29, p 12A.

⁶⁴ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-87, sheet 7A.

- (1) DEBBIE ACOLIA: married MICHAEL BRYNER; Smithfield, NC.
 - (a) DALTON BRYNER
 - (2) MICHELE ACOLIA
 - (a) NICOLE CRAVER
 - (b) GEMMA KING
 - (3) MARK ACOLIA: engaged to marry CHRISTI GERVASIO in 2005.
- 2) GAETANINA “KATIE” MATELENA: she was born as GAETANINA MADDALENA on 17 July 1884. GAETANINA is the diminutive, feminine form of GAETANO and roughly translates as *the little gal from Gaeta*, an important port city but suitable as a first name. The abbreviated *GAETE* is, phonetically, not too dissimilar from *KATIE*. She was employed as a tobacco stripper like her sister EMILIA. She married GIUSEPPE ACOLIA (born March 1876 in Atella, Italy) son of MARIA and RAFAELE ACOLIA, on 22 February 1901 in New York City. GIUSEPPE’S brother ANTONIO had married GAETANINA’S sister EMILIA three months earlier. They moved to Trenton where they lived with GIUSEPPE’S brother, MICHELE ACOLIA, at 423 Princeton Avenue. In 1904 the Americanized JOSEPH ACOLIA filed his Petition for Naturalization in Mercer County.⁶⁵ In 1908 JOSEPH is at this address selling cigars.⁶⁶ They purchased the 421 Princeton Avenue property from ALFRED REED on 8 June 1912 with a \$1500.00 mortgage.⁶⁷ They leased this property to KATIE’S parents in November 1912 and subsequently sold to them in 1914 as mentioned above. They continued to live at the 423 address and by 1910 JOSEPH ran his own shoe shop.⁶⁸ By 1920 they were living in a rented house at 9 Barbara Street. The September 1923 birth certificate for their son ALBERT gives the total number of children as 12, with 11 living but the tally below names 13 children. This discrepancy can be explained the following: their daughter ROSA, who died as an infant in 1905, was overlooked while their son MICHAEL, who was enumerated in the 1910 census but not the one in 1920, had, in fact, died before 1920. In a 1924 record JOSEPH is mentioned as being *feeble minded*.⁶⁹ As explained to this author, JOSEPH’S brother MICHELE had made a hole in the floor of the barbershop but did not properly protect it and JOSEPH fell through and was severely injured; this probably had occurred shortly before the 1924 record was created as JOSEPH is noted as being a shoemaker in September 1923. 1920 census returns state that he came to the United States in 1888 and was naturalized in 1904, while KATIE, 34 years old, came over in 1890 and became a citizen along with her husband in 1904.⁷⁰ They moved to 8 Vine Street, just off Princeton Avenue and 3 blocks north of Southard Street, where the family became members of the congregation of Saint James Roman Catholic Church, a block north on East Paul Avenue. KATIE died there on 14 March 1928 from pulmonary

⁶⁵ Petitions for Naturalization, Mercer County Clerk’s Office, volume 21, page 140.

⁶⁶ Fitzgerald’s Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1908 through 1925. See note 16.

⁶⁷ Mercer County Deeds, Volume 373, page 533, 3 December 1914. (gives details of 1912 purchase)

⁶⁸ 1910 US Census (Free Schedule), Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 7th Ward, ED 72, sheet 18B.

⁶⁹ Veteran’s Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.

⁷⁰ 1920 US Census (Free Schedule), Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, Vol. 78, ED 64, Sheet 1, Line 55.

tuberculosis; she had been under the care of a DOCTOR R. HOWE, 683 Princeton Avenue, since 6 July 1925. Her obituary appeared in the *Trenton State Gazette* on 15 March, giving her age as 42, listed her survivors as *her husband and six sons, ANTHONY, JOSEPH, BENJAMIN, DAVID and ALBERT ACOLIA; five daughters, MRS. ETTA IERO, MRS. RAE LAUTERIO, MRS. ROSE BOFONTI and JULIA and FLORENCE ACOLIA; three brothers, FRANK, ALBERT and JOHN MATELENA, all of this city; two sisters, MRS. MAMIE ACOLIA and MRS. JULIA DE FILLIPPI, of Trenton; and four grandchildren...* The funeral was conducted from their residence and she was buried in the same plot as her father in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*.⁷¹

JOSEPH, a fifty-year-old shoemaker, is found living on the next street at 4 Chase Court, a small thoroughfare between East Paul and Vine, near Brunswick Avenue when the 1930 census taker was there on 12 April. Two of his children are with him: BENJAMIN, 15 and working in a pottery factory and JULIA, 17 as the homemaker.⁷² Next door was his daughter ROSE. Just 17 days later JOSEPH died (29 April 1930). He was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* but not in the same plot as his wife, which had two vacant graves remaining. Instead he was buried across the lane from his wife. His grave is next to that of SANTO IERO who died 23 January 1934; SANTO was the father of ANTHONY J. IERO.⁷³ Three explanations offered fail when confronted with the facts. *First, there was room in the IERO plot.* It is not known when the IERO plot was purchased as only SANTO's grave seems to be there; SANTO died four years after JOSEPH and it is unlikely that this plot had been purchased years before it was needed. *Second, it was done for financial reasons.* The MATELENA plot was purchased 5 years earlier and the cost to bury in an existing family plot is less expensive than the cost to buy a separate plot and be buried there. *Third, and this is the only plausible reason, was that the position chosen for the upright gravestone for JOSEPH MATELENA required the removal of the MATELENA headstone, and its cement base before gaining access the grave.* This cost plus the cost to reset the stone could be a factor. Except ... there were two empty graves in 1930; either one could have been used. The layout of the plot is uncertain – it looks like 2 rows of 2 but it could be 4 in a row and the positioning of the headstones for the plot and those around it do not help when trying to determine the layout, it could be that the grave next to JOSEPH was being reserved for MARY and the one next to KATIE was the one blocked by the gravestone. If this is true, then it must also be true that the MATELENA headstone was not positioned to indicate where JOSEPH and MARY were buried within the 4-grave plot. There remains an empty grave in the MATELENA plot.⁷⁴ KATIE has a small marker inscribed *MOTHER* while, across the lane, JOSEPH has an identical marker that is inscribed *FATHER*; neither one has names or dates (as far as I recall).

- a) ANTONIA MARIA "ETTA" ACOLIA: born 8 December 1901. In 1920 she was still at home and working as a *floor lady* for a pottery company. She married ANTHONY J. IERO (born 14 October 1898) in 1921. They stayed in the neighborhood with city directories giving

⁷¹ See note 43

⁷² 1930 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 5th Ward, block 182, ED 11-20, sheet 18B, lines 77 – 79.

⁷³ Saint Mary's Cemetery, Section I, lot 87B, Olden Avenue, Trenton.

⁷⁴ Ida McKeown, information online at FamilySearch.org

the following addresses: 42 Vine Street (1922), 318 North Broad Street (1924, same address as ALBERT and DOROTHY MATELENA in 1922), 312 North Broad Street (1925), 671 Southard Street (1926), 108 Vine Street (1927), 106 Vine Street (1929) where they stayed until the mid-1940s at least.⁷⁵ ANTHONY died August 1971 in Ewing Township where they lived. In 1983 ETTA was living in Lawrenceville when her sister RAE died. ETTA was living with her son ANTHONY when she died on 3 November 1988; she was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*.

- i) FRANK J. IERO: born October 1921; married LILLIAN E. STANKIEWICZ, (born 10 July 1924) daughter of FRANK STANKIEWICZ and LOUISE M. NAWROCIK of 65 Annabelle Avenue in December 1946 at Holy Cross Church. The event was a true family affair: FRANK'S brother ANTHONY was Best Man, four ushers were FRANK'S cousins FRANK J. and JOSEPH IERO of Hazelton, Pennsylvania, BENJAMIN SALVATORE and NICHOLAS LAUTERIO (JUNIOR) while the fifth was his uncle ALBERT ACOLIA. Three of Frank's cousins were bridesmaids: BARBARA SALVATINI, THERESA LAUTERIO and ALBERTA MATELENA.⁷⁶ LILLIAN died 6 March 2008 in Princeton and was entombed in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*. FRANK lived in Lawrenceville until his death in 2015.
 - (1) FRANK A. IERO: born 4 August 1947, married LINDA _____ or DEBORAH (2010), Hamilton
 - (a) FRANK A. IERO, JUNIOR: living in Butler, NJ with wife JAMIA in 2010.
 - (2) TONI MARIE IERO: married PATRICK MUSTO, Lawrenceville.
 - (a) TRICIA MUSTO: Somerset, NJ (2010).
 - (b) PATRICK MUSTO, JUNIOR: Lawrenceville
- ii) ANTHONY D. IERO: born September 1924. ANTHONY was a co-owner with his brother FRANK of North Brunswick Refrigeration, LLC in North Brunswick. ANTHONY died 14 June 2010, buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*.⁷⁷
- b) RAPHAEL "RAE" ACOLIA: born 23 February 1903 (February 1902 given in 1905 State census). In 1920 she was a *cleaner* in a pottery company. By 1924 she was a *sales girl* making \$15.00 a week and living with her grandparents at 421 Princeton Avenue. She married NICOLA LAUTERIO (born 17 December 1895 in Colledara, Teramo, Abruzzo to PIETRO LAUTERIO and PALMA TERESA DI FRANCESCO) and immigrated in 1913. NICK was the cause of a rather unpleasant occurrence within the family in 1928 which is detailed below under JULIA MARIA ACOLIA. NICK was a World War I Army veteran and worked as a caster at American Standard Pottery. RAE and NICK lived at 820 Brunswick Avenue in North Trenton in 1940 if not earlier as RAE'S younger sister FLORENCE is found at this address in 1938.⁷⁸ They remained in the area and were living at 818 Brunswick Avenue in 1968 where they were ten years later. NICK died 4 April 1978 and was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* in Trenton.⁷⁹ RAE continued to live on Brunswick

⁷⁵ 1930 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 5th Ward, block 182, ED 11-20, sheet 17B, lines 93 – 98.

⁷⁶ "Becomes Bride at Church Wedding," *Trenton Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 29 Dec 1946, part 3, page 2, column 3.

⁷⁷ *Trentonian* 15 June 2010

⁷⁸ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 8th Ward, block 53, ED 27-59, sheet 7B, lines 42 – 49

Avenue until her death on 5 June 1983.⁸⁰ She was buried next to her husband. NICK's obituary states he had 17 grandchildren while RAE's puts the number at 11; that NICK had more grandchildren is known to be true – 3 are the DiPIERRO's listed under GAETANINA ACOLIA and NICK DiPIERRO below. Only the following 4, one for each child, has been identified to date as being RAE's grandchildren.

i) THERESA LAUTERIO: born 3 July 1927; married MICHAEL GAVENDA; they lived in Mercerville and Ewing. She died 20 November 2011; entombed at *Saint Mary's Cemetery* in Trenton.

(1) CAROL GAVENDA

ii) NICK LAUTERIO, JUNIOR: born 1930; married MARY JANE ____; Warminster, Pennsylvania

(1) NICK LAUTERIO, III: died 1996

iii) CATHERINE MARY LAUTERIO: born 5 February 1932; married DOCTOR ANGELO MICHAEL REPOLE (son of ANTHONY REPOLE) on 25 October 1959 at Saint James Roman Catholic Church. Her sister ETTA was maid-of-honor. They first lived at 904 Hamilton Avenue before moving to Lawrenceville.⁸¹

(1) DONNA REPOLE

iv) ETTA LAUTERIO: born 1934; married ROBERT LOGAN on 12 October 1968 at Saint James Roman Catholic Church in Trenton. The bridal party included THERESA GAVENDA (sister), matron-of-honor, CATHERINE REPOLE (sister) and CAROL GAVENDA (niece), flower girls, and NICHOLAS LAUTERIO (brother), usher.⁸² They were living in Mercerville in 1983.

(1) ROBERT LOGAN

c) MICHAEL ACOLIA: born circa 1904. He was enumerated in the 1910 census with his parents but is missing from the 1920 census. He is not listed as a surviving son in his mother's obituary in 1928.

d) ROSA ACOLIA: born February 1905; died at home on 23 August 1905 from a brain infection and wasting, buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton.

e) ROSINA "ROSE" MARIE ACOLIA: born 4 September (or October) 1906; married JOHN H. BONFANTE (also found as BONFANTI; born 1903?, NY) around 1926. ROSE was a *dipper* in a pottery factory in 1920 and through 1923 at least, and JOHN worked as an electrician. In 1930 ROSE, JOHN and their 29-month-old daughter CLARA were living at 8 Chase Court, next to her widowed father and two siblings.⁸³ By 1935 they were renting a house at 322 Perry Street, near North Stockton Street, and were still there in 1940.⁸⁴ ROSE died 10 July 1989. A JOHN BONFANTI who was born 10 June 1907 died on 22 January 1993 in

⁷⁹ *Trenton Times*, 5 April 1978, p. B4, column 1

⁸⁰ *Trenton Times*, 6 June 1983, p. B5, column 2

⁸¹ *Trenton Times*, 26 October 1959, p. 7, column 2

⁸² *Trenton Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 13 October 1968, part 5, p. 5, columns 7-9.

⁸³ 1930 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 5th Ward, block 182, ED 11-20, sheet 18B, lines 74 – 76.

⁸⁴ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-49, p.1A; Roll: T627_2435.

Mercer County but it is not certain if this is the same person. ROSE died in Trenton on 10 July 1989.

- i) CLARA BONFANTE: born November 1927; married ISADORE BURD
 - (1) JOYCE BURD
 - (2) JEAN BURD
 - (3) GAIL BURD
 - (4) BARBARA BURD
 - (5) ROSE BURD
 - (6) FLOYD BURD
 - (7) RUSSELL BURD
 - (8) SCOTT BURD
- ii) JOHN BONFANTE, JUNIOR: born late 1930 or 1931. A person of this name was born 29 April 1930 and died December 1984, both in Trenton; it is not certain if this is the same person. CATHERINE, relationship not certain, the infant daughter of JOHN and MARJORIE (FINE) BONFANTE was buried in 1960 in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* in Trenton.
- iii) CATHERINE BONFANTE: born 1933; married JOHN KURTEN
 - (1) WILLIAM KURTEN
 - (2) CANDY KURTEN
- iv) GENEVIEVE BONFANTE: born 1935; married DAVE PULSON
 - (1) DAVID PULSON
 - (2) MICHAEL PULSON
 - (3) JULIE PULSON
- f) ANTONIO ACOLIA: born 10 March 1910. In December 1929 ANTONIO was a 19-year-old laborer earning \$23 a week and lived at 121 Vine Street. He was the sole source of support for his father and six younger siblings when he went to New York and enlisted in the U.S. Army, requesting assignment to the Hawaiian Islands. Based on a complaint filed by a concerned, but unnamed, *Aunt*, he was discharged for being underage (at 19!) during the first week of January 1930 and asked to return to Trenton to provide for his father and siblings.⁸⁵ He may have had mental health issues as a 30-year-old ANTHONY ACOLIA is found in the 1940 census at the NJ State Hospital.⁸⁶ He may have lived at 35 North Warren Street and 325 Jersey Street before dying in September 1997 in Trenton.
- g) JULIE MARIE ACOLIA: born 22 June 1912 (1914 according to 1920 census). At the age of 16 she became pregnant by her brother-in-law, NICK LAUTERIO. According to one source, she was beaten and raped. As a result, she had:
 - i) CATHERINE ACOLIA: born 14 June 1929, married NICK DiPIERRE (died 4 May 1995, *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery*), CATHERINE lives in Bordentown, NJ (1998).
 - (1) NICK DiPIERRE: born 4 December 1960/1, married 1983 to TERRY SCHWIN, divorced 1996.
 - (2) AMANDA MARIE DiPIERRE: born 1985

⁸⁵ "Aid For Destitute Father Restored As Boy Is Found," *Trenton Times*, 8 January 1930, p. 1, column 6

⁸⁶ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-137, p 8A.

(3) ALICIA DiPIERRE: born 1988

JULIE insisted on having NICK LAUTERIO listed as the father but gave her the ACOlia surname. As a result, RAE and NICK LAUTERIO distanced themselves from the family; it is also evident that RAE and NICK's children were well-integrated into the family with NICK, JUNIOR and THERESA being in the wedding party of their cousin FRANK IERO in December 1946 and THERESA being a bridesmaid for ALBERTA MATELENA in June 1948.

JULIA married ANTHONY DESILVIA (born circa 1899, Fall River, MA); they lived at 8 Chase Court in Trenton, possibly with her sister ROSE; they were at this address, without ROSE, in 1940 with their 2 year old son TONY and 10 year old *daughter CATHERINE SILVIA*.⁸⁷ They moved to 17-A Stenton Court, in Hamilton Township. The *DE-* is often dropped and the surname given as SILVIA. This was ANTHONY's second marriage. He had two children from his first marriage, a son LEON SILVIA who was living in Cambridge, MA in 1975, now deceased; and a daughter HILDA HAAS living in San Diego, CA. ANTHONY died 6 March 1975 and was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton. The list of his survivors includes his "daughter" CATHERINE DiPIERRO.⁸⁸ JULIA had moved to Morrisville, PA by the mid-1980s. When greeting, she would always tilt your head forward and kiss you on the forehead. She died 4 February 1997 and was entombed at *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery*. They had:

- ii) ANTHONY DESILVIA, JUNIOR: born 2 July 1937; Fairless Hills, PA, died February 2006.
- iii) JOSEPH DESILVIA: born 17 April 1941; lives in Fairless Hills, PA.
- iv) CARMEL DESILVIA: born 7 August 1942 (birth record gives surname as DASILVIA); has been with GAIL MORRISON since 13 August 1965, lives in Penn Wood, PA.
- v) FLORENCE ALBERTA DESILVIA: born 5 February 1944 (birth record gives surname as SILVIA); first married CHARLES REED, second married SAMUEL CALDARARO
 - (1) JULIE MARIE REED: born 1962, married MICK RYAN
 - (a) JENNIFER MICHELE RYAN
 - (2) DONNA LYNN REED: married 1979 to RANDY SANCHEZ, divorced; died November 2005.
 - (a) RANDY MARK SANCHEZ, JUNIOR: born 1980
 - (3) KIMBERLY ANN REED
 - (a) CHRISTINE: born 7 September 1995
 - (b) JACQUELYN: born 9 December 1998
- h) JOSEPH ACOlia: born 25 March 1914; he attended school until 1925 or '26, completing the 5th grade and was living with his sister ETTA IERO at 106 Vine Street in 1930. He married LENA BARGHOLTZ and they were living next to his sister JULIA SILVIA in their father's former home at 4 Chase Court in 1940. JOSEPH was a house painter at the time and had his younger brothers BENJAMIN, a plumber's helper, and ALBERT living with them.⁸⁹ JOSEPH and LENA had no children of their own but served as surrogate parents of

⁸⁷ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 8th Ward, ED 27-37, p 61A.

⁸⁸ Trenton *Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 9 March 1975, part 3. p. 4, columns 1, 2

⁸⁹ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 8th Ward, ED 27-37, p 61A.

JOSEPH's younger brothers. LENA died 16 July 1962 and was buried in *Riverview Cemetery*. JOSEPH married second JOSEPHINE TRANOTTI and they moved to Lakehurst, New Jersey in 1968. JOSEPH died there on 25 August 1979 and was buried in *Riverview Cemetery*. JOSEPHINE remained in Lakehurst and died there in January 1986.

- i) BENJAMIN ACOLIA: born 30 September 1916. His schooling ended, like his brother JOSEPH, after the 5th grade, probably in 1927. He was still single in 1936 when he enlisted for World War II and in 1940 when he was living with his brother JOSEPH. He married EVE SAMPSON no children. BENJAMIN died 28 October 2010 in Newtown, Bucks County, PA.
- j) FLORENCE LORRAINE (or EVELYN) ACOLIA: born 28 September 1917; married first NICHOLAS LOUIS SEBASTO (born 5 January 1912, son of DOMINICK SEBASTO and MARY ROSSI) on 9 July 1938. FLORENCE was living at 820 Brunswick Avenue at this time, the same address her older sister RAE was living at in 1940, and NICHOLAS was a truck driver living at home, 134 Grand Avenue in Trenton. This address is unconfirmed as other sources give the street name as Grant, just off Perry and North Clinton Streets and location as Ewing though neither street name appears in Ewing. The ceremony was performed at the ACOLIA family church, *Saint James Roman Catholic Church* at 29 East Paul Avenue, by REVEREND THOMAS ROCCA with witnesses being NUNZIO SEBASTO and FRANCES PUCCI.⁹⁰ NICHOLAS SEBASTO should not be confused with another of the same name appearing in the 1940 census at 21 Barbara Street with his wife ELIZABETH, 28, and children ANTHONY, 13; MARTHA, 10; MARY, 9; DONNIE, 7; MICHAEL, 5; JOSEPH, 2 and NICHOLAS, 1.⁹¹ This is probably not the same person as the subject herein discussed was living with his parents in 1930 at 134 Grand Avenue in Ewing. More research is necessary to unravel this couple's history. FLORENCE then married JOHN S. ZUCSEK. FLORENCE was living in Mercerville in 1983; she died on 22 December 1986 and her husband JOHN died 17 July 2005; both interred at *Princeton Memorial Park Cemetery*.
 - i) JOHN G. ZUCSEK
 - ii) JANICE L. ZUCSEK
 - iii) DEBORAH L. ZUCSEK : married ROBERT DOMANSKI
- k) DAVID WILSON ACOLIA: born 1920 and was living with his sister RAY LAUTERIO at 820 Brunswick Avenue in 1940. He is said to have been pen pals with an Italian girl who he later sent for and then married named MARY ANN _____, Trenton, living 1994.
 - i) DAVE ACOLIA: married 24 May 1997 in Trenton, NJ
- l) JOHN W. ACOLIA: born 30 December 1921; also lived with his sister RAY LAUTERIO at 820 Brunswick Avenue in 1940. He was a cook when he enlisted as a Private in the National Guard on 16 September 1940. He married EDNA KRYSTOFIK, daughter of PETER and CATHERINE KRYSTOFIK, no children, lived in Seaside Heights, NJ where they rented bungalows to seasonal vacationers; living there in 1994. JOHN died 3 December 2011.

⁹⁰ Marriage license of Sebasto and Acolia, 9 June 1938, NJ State Archives [and] Mercer County Deeds, vol. 904, p.549. See note 31.

⁹¹ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-43, p 6B.

⁹² Birth Certificate 0000228; and McKeown, Ida Acolia, e-mails August 2015 provide many details

m) ALBERT FRANK ACOLIA⁹²: “ALBIE” was born at home on 6 September 1923, Trenton, NJ; may have been baptized at Saint James’ Roman Catholic Church. He had few good memories of his time spent in Saint Michael’s Orphanage – he had to have surgery performed on one eye while there and attributed his lifelong dislike of carrots to his time there. He did serve as an altar boy for a time; he was fair-skinned with lots of freckles and had *auburn hair and hazel eyes though they often looked light green*. He had completed the 8th grade by 1940 and was living with his brother JOSEPH. While a student at Trenton Central High School he played baseball and *ran track with his cousins just for fun*.



Immediately after high school graduation in 1943 he was drafted into the United States Army, serving as a Private in the 355th Infantry Regiment. Entering the Western Front in March 1945, the unit was one of the first to cross the River Rhine into Germany and assisted in the liberation of the concentration camp near Ohrdruf before being transferred to Zwickau on the Czechoslovakian frontier. The unit was transferred back home in the Fall of 1945. After returning ALBERT drove a motorcycle, possibly Army surplus. He married 14 August 1948 JOYCE MARY O’HARROW (born 5 June 1930, Jackson, MI) at the courthouse in Brown’s Mills, New Jersey as their parish priest felt that JOYCE was too immature to be married. They met when JOYCE was visiting a friend on Chase Court and ALBERT was painting a car where he lived across the street. ALBERT thought JOYCE was a nuisance until she started to ignore him which brought him to his senses! Their marriage was blessed on Christmas Day that same year. They bought a house at 226 Norway Avenue in Hamilton Township in 1964 and the family affiliated with Saint Anthony’s Church at this time. ALBERT worked for CV Hill Refrigeration and they moved to Bordentown and became part of the congregation of Saint Mary’s Church at that place. JOYCE died suddenly on 31 March 1992 in Bordentown, NJ; interred *Saint Mary’s Cemetery*, Bordentown, NJ in her parent’s plot. ALBERT moved to Hamilton Township by 1994. ALBERT is believed to have died 10 October 2005 in Trenton however some discrepancies in the obituary, naming BENEDICT ACOLIA as a younger brother, casts doubt on the identity. The problem is BENEDICT ACOLIA *did* live in Trenton; he was the son of an ANTHONY ACOLIA, who died in Trenton on 24 October 1993. If the obituary is in error, it is a huge error and one wonders just who supplied the newspaper with this information. ALBERT is also interred at *Saint Mary’s Cemetery*, Bordentown, NJ but in a separate plot.

- i) JOYCE KATHERINE (BERNADETTE) ACOLIA: born 20 June 1949; never married.
 - (1) MARQ ALBERT ACOLIA: born 1969; wife named LINDA SLEETH, lived in Blackwood, NJ in 2005. MARQ was killed in a motorcycle accident on 16 August 2014 in Portland, Oregon. He was buried in *Saint Mary’s Cemetery* in Bordentown, NJ.
 - (2) BONNIE ACOLIA: married JEFFREY PARKS, living in Trenton, NJ in 2005.
 - (a) KIRSTEN PARKS
- ii) YVONNE JOANN ACOLIA: born 22 June 1954, married ROBERT CHIANESE; living in

Trenton, NJ in 2005.

iii) IDA LENA (CATHERINE) ACOLIA: born 1 December 1964, Trenton; married 28 May 1988 to BRIAN MCKEOWN (born 23 December 1963). They lived on Norway Avenue in Hamilton Township.

(1) KATLYN MARIE MCKEOWN: born 29 March 1989, Trenton, NJ.

FLORENCE, DAVID, JOHN and ALBERT were placed in the *Saint Michael's Orphan Asylum and Industrial Home* in Hopewell Township, Mercer County shortly after their mother's death and were still there during the enumeration of the 1930 Federal Census.⁹³ As they got older they were removed to the homes of older siblings. A statement made by KATIE's father in 1924

mentions 12 children and that figure agrees with the above list naming 13 children as ROSINA had died in infancy in 1905. However a mystery surrounds son MICHAEL as he disappears from records by 1920; perhaps the tally on the 1924 list was for the children that JOSEPH MATELENA recalled whether or not they were living; the list is not specific in this matter.



- 3) DAVIDE ARTURO MATELENA: Birth date is usually given as 23 March but that is the date of the registration of birth. This usually occurs the day after the birth with the informant being the father or the midwife. Unfortunately the Register of Births for 1887 has been seriously damaged by both worms and water rendering the document mostly illegible.⁹⁴ He worked in the Prospect Hill Pottery factory in West Trenton. He had ambitions to become a priest. Both his home and the factory were close to the railroad and it was common to "hop" a freight train to get to work, a distance of about a half-mile. The train went from the station near the Battle Monument out past Prospect Street on the Delaware and Bound Brook Railroad line where the factory was located. DAVIDE chose not to do this but, instead walked. After succumbing to peer-pressure, he decided to try. He fell the first time he tried. He ran to catch the train and in reaching for the car, he slipped and fell again, this time rolling under the train. He died 4 hours later in his mother's arms. His death certificate states he died at Saint Francis Hospital on 4 May 1903 of *shock resulting from accident* with the notation that *body appears being mangled*. He was 17 years old and employed as a potter. He was buried at *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery*.⁹⁵ The cemetery office has not been able to locate his plot. The

⁹³ 1930 US Census: Mercer Co., NJ, Hopewell Township, ED 11-95, sheet 1B, lines 1-4.

⁹⁴ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1887, No. 68. FamilySearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1893 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁹⁵ "David Matelena Dead From Injuries On Rail," *Trenton Evening Times*, 5 May 1903, p.8, col.2, and death certificate. Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, letter to author dated 8 May 1997 states the only Matelena buried there is Josephine "6853, buried

section of the cemetery that was used at this time is the oldest in the cemetery and very few grave markers remain so it appears that, unless a plot map is found, DAVIDE's final resting place will remain a mystery.

- 4) ALFONSO VINCENZO MATELENA: (FRANK) he gave his date of birth as 2 August 1881 when enlisting in the military. He was known as "Uncle Funz". He was involved with the NJ Guardsmen in 1908 when he is found in Company E assisting in maintaining the peace in Perth Amboy during a boisterous strike.⁹⁶ He worked in his father's market in 1910 and continued to do so through 1929. He married MARCELLA "MADGE" HANNON (born 1893) circa 1909. He served in WW I from 28 May 1918 to 17 December 1918.⁹⁷ After the war he was a huckster. He continued to live with his parents at 421 Princeton Avenue, along with his son, until 1924 at least. He paid his parents \$3.00 a week for the support of his son. He lived at 15 Fountain Avenue in 1928 and 1929. He sold produce from his truck throughout the Trenton area. In the 1930 Federal Census records (and perhaps others) MADGE, 37, is found as the wife of MICHAEL MATELENA, a 41-year-old chauffeur, and living with their 17-year-old son JOSEPH at 232 North Warren Street.⁹⁸ This was probably an error made by the census taker as FRANK and MADGE were both living at this address by 1934; a HILDA MATELENA who has not been identified was living with them in 1934 but not 1930. MADGE and her son JOSEPH were still at 232 North Warren Street in 1940, but FRANK has not been found in that census.⁹⁹ FRANK moved to a room at 112 North Stockton Street by 1942 for in December of that year his room was ransacked and robbed.¹⁰⁰ MADGE was still living at the Warren Street address when she died 30 July 1959 while she was visiting her son in Saint Ann, Missouri. She was buried in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton, NJ.¹⁰¹ FRANK died in 1972 and is buried with his wife.
- a) JOSEPH MATELENA: born 1 August 1912, baptized at Saint Mary's Cathedral on 18 August 1912 with godparents being

Joe's a Straight Shooter



Joseph Matelena

Photo by Raw.

This is Joe, the Big Shot at the Cathedral School. He proved it by out-shooting all comers and winning the first parochial school mib title in the Trenton Times championship. At 11, Joe's eye and aim were more accurate than any of the "big fellas" even.

12/2/95 GDP-52-F" – she was entombed, not buried. There are two Maddalena's there: Grace, buried 2/25/85 "2266, SJG-6-60" and one Acolia: Vittoria P. buried 1/16/91 "4986, SJG-15-60"

⁹⁶ *Trenton Evening Times*. (Trenton, NJ) 4 December 1908.

⁹⁷ Department of Defense, WW I Unofficial Service Records, State of New Jersey, National Army; for Frank V. Matelena, No. 2-960-313; NJ Archives, 185 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625

⁹⁸ 1930 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 7th Ward, block 269, ED 11-30, sheet 11A, lines 9 – 11.

⁹⁹ 1940 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, ED 27-51, p 12B.

¹⁰⁰ "Rooms Ransacked, \$129 in Loot Taken," *Trenton Evening Times*, 22 December 1942, p. 8, col. 3.

¹⁰¹ "Mrs. Madge Matelena," *Trenton Evening Times*, 2 August 1959, p. 14, col. 3

ALFRED MATELENA and VIOLA MULLEN. It is not known who *ALFRED* is. It is doubtful that ALBERT MATELENA, at 16 years old, was the godfather. In 1924 he became a minor celebrity by becoming the first “Big Shot” in a competition sponsored by the Trenton Times, as the accompanying article shows.¹⁰² JOSEPH sold fruit and produce, as did his father, from 1933 to 1936 during which time he lived at 851 Spruce Street with his grandmother and Uncle ALBERT according to the city directories of that time. He was hired by Trenton Transit’s Terminal Cab Company on 7 July 1942 and was living at 232 North Warren Street.¹⁰³ JOSEPH had a career in the US Army, serving during WW II, The Korean War and the Vietnam conflict. He was living in Saint Ann, Missouri in 1959 when his mother died while visiting him there. He married Mrs. MARGUERITE WHISTLER who had 4 children. They moved to Columbus, Muscogee County, GA. in 1968. After retiring from the US Army, he worked as a security guard. He died on 11 April 1996 at Martin Army Community Hospital, Fort Benning, Georgia. Military burial was in *Fort Benning Main Post Cemetery*. MARGUERITE continued to live in Columbus until her death in 2002. She was the last person with the MATELENA surname.¹⁰⁴ There are 11 step-grandchildren and 2 step-great grandchildren. His step-children were:

- i) GWEN WHISTLER: married ? MORAN, Douglasville, Georgia.
- ii) JAMES WHISTLER: married, Columbus, Georgia.
- iii) RICHARD WHISTLER: Columbus, Georgia.
- iv) THOMAS WHISTLER: Oklahoma.

- 5) JULIA MATELENA: born *MELI MARIA*, or *MARIA MELI*. She received her Holy Confirmation at Saint Mary’s Cathedral on 3 June 1906¹⁰⁵; worked in her father’s market in 1910. JULIA is found as a member of the Red Rose Club in January 1913 – it was reported that she was at a club function hosted by MISS PEARL FERGUSON of 1414 South Clinton Avenue.¹⁰⁶ She is found as a clerk in the city directories from 1915 to 1920, living at 421 Princeton Avenue.¹⁰⁷ She was engaged to SALVERIO DEFILLIPPO of Bridgeport, Connecticut in July 1919. They were married at Saint Mary’s Cathedral on Tuesday morning, the 2nd of September 1919.¹⁰⁸ SALVERIO was the son of MR. & MRS. MINNATO DEFILLIPO and would Americanize his name to SAMUEL DEFILLIPS. They moved to 15 Fountain Avenue by 1924 and were still there six years later. They appear to have been landlords for the other half of the building as they are found as the people to contact for renting 13 Fountain Avenue. They had sold the building by May 1937. In 1940, the 8-room semi-detached house was for sale for \$1,950.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰² “Joe’s A Straight Shooter,” *Trenton Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 27 April 1924, page 1, col 2.

¹⁰³ Trenton Transit, Terminal Cab Company, Employee Yearly Earnings Records, 1937 – 1945; available at Trenton Historical Society and their webpage at: <http://www.trentonhistory.org/Made/TerminalCabEmployees.html>

¹⁰⁴ “Miss Matelena To Wed Bridgeport Man,” *Trenton Evening Times*, 24 July 1919, p. 12.

¹⁰⁵ “Solemn Rites For Many Children,” *Trenton Evening Times*, 1 June 1906, page 14.

¹⁰⁶ *Trenton Evening Times*, 29 January 1913, page 12.

¹⁰⁷ *Fitzgerald’s Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1908 through 1925. See note 16

¹⁰⁸ “Miss Matelena Weds,” *Trenton Evening Times*, 2 September 1919, p. 12

SAMUEL was a machinist for the Aircraft Corporation.¹¹⁰ After her husband died and before 1962, JULIA married FRANK FERRARA.

- a) FREDERICK DEFILLIPS: born 3 July 1920. Was married and had 5 children, lived in Florida. He died on 11 January 2002 in Mount Dora, Lake County, Florida.
 - b) MARIE M. DEFILLIPS, born 8 December 1926.¹¹¹ Married MICHAEL MELCHIANDO; they lived in Trenton for many years before moving to 240 Upper Ferry Road in Ewing Township. 5 children, 10 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild. She was known within the family as “*BIG MARIE*” to distinguish her from her cousin, MARIE MATELENA, who was born a few years later and called “*LITTLE MARIE*.” Living (2011) on Upper Ferry Road in Ewing Township, NJ.
 - c) DOLORES (DOLLY) DEFILLIPS, born 23 September 1930, married TED FURMAN, Trenton. She died 21 October 1993. 5 children.
- 6) ALBERT JOSEPH MATELENA: born UMBERTO GIUSEPPE MADDALENA.¹¹² He was baptized at The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Italian Harlem. An interesting note on his given name of UMBERTO: The English translation is *HUBERT* or, rarely, *HUMBERT*, not *ALBERT*. In Italian, *ALBERTO* is ALBERT. It is not known if his parent’s (1) meant to name him the equivalent of HUBERT but did not understand the error made in the translation several years later (doubtful) or (2) meant his name to be ALBERT in English and mistakenly named him *UMBERTO* instead of *ALBERTO* (possible) or (3) didn’t really care one way or the other as neither HUBERT nor ALBERT was the name they chose (probable). He received his Roman Catholic Confirmation on Sunday the 7th of June 1908 at Saint Mary’s Cathedral in Trenton from BISHOP McFAUL.¹¹³ He was working in his fathers' produce market when he was 14 in 1910. He reported eight years of grade school and three years of high school in military records. It hasn’t been established that he graduated from Cathedral High School as the Cathedral employees have stated that the records have not been maintained. He liked to play baseball a lot, and was quite good at it according to one of his friends. In 1913 he was struck with typhoid fever and was hospitalized for six months.¹¹⁴ As a result of this illness, he was left with heart damage, which caused him to experience pain over the heart with even slight exertion. As a consequence, he became a barber and appears as such in the city directory of 1913.¹¹⁵ In 1915 and 1916 he worked as a barber for MICHAEL ACOLIA at 423 Princeton Avenue, next door where his sister KATIE and her husband JOSEPH ACOLIA lived. In

¹⁰⁹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 23 October 1940

¹¹⁰ 1930 US Census, Mercer Co., NJ, Trenton, 5th Ward, block 216, ED 11-25, sheet 10B, lines 51 – 54.

¹¹¹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 8 December 1926

¹¹² Birth Certificate of Umberto Giuseppe Maddalena, Certificate No. 7957; Municipal Archives and Records Retention Center, 31 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007

¹¹³ *Trenton Evening Times*. “Many Children To Be Confirmed. Cathedral and Immaculate Conception Classes Ready For Church Rites.” “Cathedral Confirmation.” (Trenton, NJ) 6 June 1908.

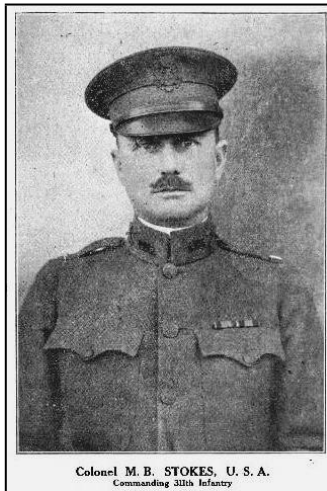
¹¹⁴ Veteran's Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.

¹¹⁵ *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1905 and 1905 Census of the State of New Jersey, see note 19

September 1916 he started working for FRANK D. SCALAZI at 127 South Warren Street as a barber, where he remained until February 1918. He earned about \$125.00 a month, of which \$60.00 went to his parents. He was introduced to gambling while working in one of these two barber shops. He was employed as a runner of sorts, taking the betting sheet and the money from the owner/barber who was also a bookie, to the bookmaker who paid out the winning bets and, much more often, kept the losing bets, minus a percentage for the barber.¹¹⁶ In 1917 he was also working for the Pennsylvania Railroad in the freight department.¹¹⁷ He always dressed in the latest fashions, part of the "jet-set" of the time, which earned him the nickname "*The Count*."

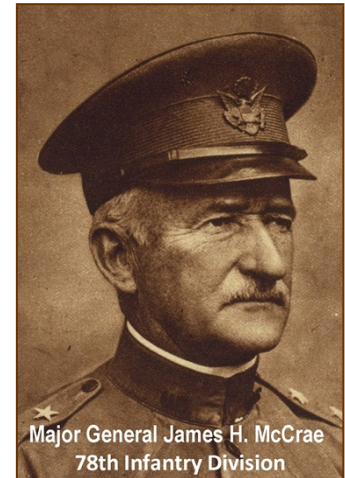
Note: the following section contains much information uncovered after finishing *The First World War*, the *Lightning Division* and *Private Albert Matelena* in 2009.

ALBERT fought in World War I from 27 February 1917 to 30 May 1919. He was in Company E, 2nd Infantry Battalion, 311th Infantry Regiment, 156th Infantry Brigade of the 78th Division until his discharge.¹¹⁸ The first draftees reported to Camp Dix on 5 September 1917. ALBERT was part of the final inductees of the first draft reporting to Camp Dix to begin basic training on 12 February 1918, just after his 22nd birthday. It is interesting to see the desperate need for men even at this early stage for, even



though he was excused from most daily drills due to pain over his heart caused by the heart damage from his bout with typhoid fever 5 years earlier, he was accepted nonetheless. His entrance exam at Camp Dix did not occur until 2 March 1918 when he was recorded as being 5' 4³/₄" tall and weighing just 126 pounds!¹¹⁹

The American Expeditionary Force was composed of just the 1st Army (whose insignia is an 'A') until the last month of the war. October saw the formation of the 2nd Army while the 3rd was created 4 days before the Armistice. Next in size came the 7 Corps activated before the Armistice, usually written with the Roman numerals I through VII followed by 48 Divisions numbered 1 – 13, 19, 26 – 42, and 76 – 93. The command structure was as follows. MAJOR GENERAL JAMES HENRY



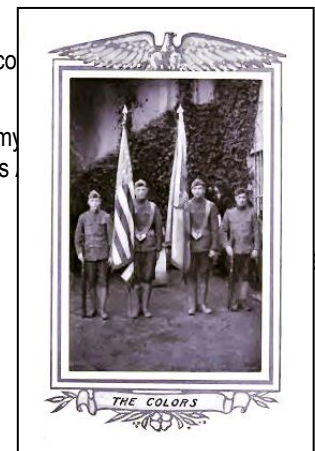
MCRAC was the 78th Lightning Division commander; BRIGADIER GENERAL DEAN

¹¹⁶ Jeff Nabinger, conversation with author, 23 April 2019.

¹¹⁷ Military Registration Card of Albert Matelena, No. 146, 29-3-33-A; Federal Archives and Records Administration, East Point, Ga. 30344.

¹¹⁸ Department of Defense, WW I Unofficial Service Records, State of New Jersey, National Army No.2-409-639; NJ Archives, 185 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625; and records of the Veteran's Administration.

¹¹⁹ Veteran's Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.



commanded the 156th Brigade and COLONEL MARCUS B. STOKES was Regimental commander. MAJOR GEORGE T. ADEE was 2nd Battalion commander and 1st LIEUTENANT JOHN R. KENNEDY was Adjutant for the Battalion. Company E was under the command of CAPTAIN HENRY P. WARREN, JUNIOR with 1st LIEUTENANT ROBERT L. DAVISON, 1st LIEUTENANT ELSWORTH DEDERER, 1st LIEUTENANT CLARENCE M. FINCH, 2nd LIEUTENANT ALBERT A. KELLEHER and 2nd LIEUTENANT PAUL W. EMANUEL as his officers. Under the localization program in effect in 1917, the units of the 78th were slated to be as follows: New Jersey men made up the 311th and 312th Infantry, the 308th Artillery and 1st Battalion, and 303rd Engineers; those from western New York state made up the 309th and 310th Infantry, the 307th and 309th Artillery and 2nd Battalion, 303rd Engineers; men from Delaware made up the Divisional Machine Gun Battalion; and other units had men from anywhere as long as they were qualified. Of the 25,000 men of the 78th, roughly 3,600 men comprised the 311th Infantry Regiment. They were proud to be one of the first to be presented with their Regimental colors which they soon displayed at the Third Liberty Bond Drive parade in Philadelphia on 27 April 1918. The 310th and 311th were reviewed by military and civil officials from a grandstand near City Hall, and an estimated 2 million people lined the parade route. Camp Dix was built to train 50,000 soldiers and, accordingly, was home to the 78th and the Divisions. The area also saw non-military changes as well: *The Haversack* and the *Woman's Suffrage Clubs* were opened in Wrightstown, the *Methodist Hostess House*, the *Farmhouse Club* and *Saint George's Club* opened in Pointville and the military took over the old brick hotel in Wrightstown, turning it into a *Soldier's Club* run by Camp Dix.



ALBERT spent a year and ten days overseas, leaving Camp Dix by train for Jersey City at 4 am on Sunday, 19 May 1918. Three hours later they boarded ferries that took them to Pier 8 at the Bush Terminal in Brooklyn. They immediately boarded US Army Transport 599, the USS *Nestor*. This ship had just been released from duty as a troop ship for the Australian Expeditionary Forces and the 311th were the first US troops to be transported. The convoy was assembled under the direction of the United States Cruiser and Transport Force and was escorted by the armored cruiser USS *Montana* (ARC-13).¹²⁰ Even today, an accurate account of the size of the convoy remains elusive – some say 9, others 13 while 17 is also noted. The number of named vessels in the *train*, *i.e.* troopships, found in the records so far is 15 while the *Montana* is the only escort noted during the first half of the crossing. Convoys were split into Convoy Groups,

¹²⁰ Albert Gleaves, Vice-Admiral U.S. Navy, Commander of Convoy Operations, *A History of the Transport Service* (New York: George H. Dornan Company; 1921) p. 28 et. seq

each Group having 4 to 8 transports capable of running at the same speed with an Armed Cruiser in escort until being met mid-Atlantic by European destroyers. In addition to the 13 pictured, the *Mentor* and the *Marvada* are said to be in this convoy but have not been identified. Most of the transports were British including *SS Winifredian*, *SS Vestris*, *SS Eurylochus*, *SS Kildonan Castle*, *SS Beltana*, *SS Northland*, *SS Miltiades*, *RMS Saxon*, and *SS Justicia*; *HMT Aquitania* and *SS Kia Ora* being Australian. *USS Nestor*, *USS Louisville* (SP-1644; before and after the war named *SS Saint Louis*), and *USS Virginian* (ID-3920) were American. (SS means *Single-screw Steamship* ; TSS means *Twin-screw Steamship* (both being related to number of propellers); RMS means *Royal Mail Ship*; HMT may mean *His Majesty's Troopship* or *Hired Military Transport*; and USS means *United States Ship* and is reserved for commissioned ships only) After departing the states from Boston, Philadelphia and New York, the convoy rendezvoused at Halifax Harbor in Nova Scotia before heading across the pond on 27 May.

The zig-zag sailing pattern was an effective measure against torpedo attacks. The *Justicia* was hit by 6 torpedoes from the German U-boats *UB-64* and *UB-124* seven weeks later and sank off the coast of Scotland. I have reconstructed the convoy as best I can; when they sailed the men did not know the names of the other vessels in the convoy and sometimes even their own was a mystery as it was policy to hide the identity of most vessels with false names and fake structures like a dummy funnel. First, the escort, then another of the *Nestor*, and then eleven more I've located.

Note the *razzle-dazzle* paint jobs on several of the ships. This was to confuse anyone watching them from correctly estimating their speed and direction. Taken from nature, e.g. zebras, it was thought such patterns made it difficult to tell which direction a vessel was heading, just as the stripes on zebras confuse attackers who aim incorrectly and miss. Whether or not this actually had any benefit has never been properly tested.

It is rumored that ALBERT was disciplined for gambling on the transport ship.¹²¹ Many years later, he was asked by an inquisitive grandson, just how one would run a crap game on a pitching steel-decked troop ship and ALBERT proceeded to show him: stretch an army blanket taut across the floor. He then proceeded to instruct said grandson of the necessity of properly cradling the die in the crook between the second and third fingers, with the "correct sides" facing up.

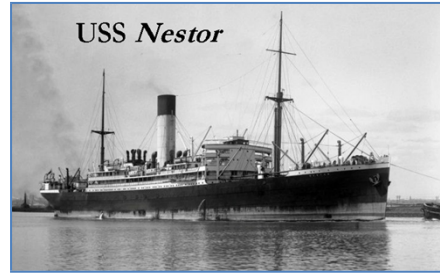
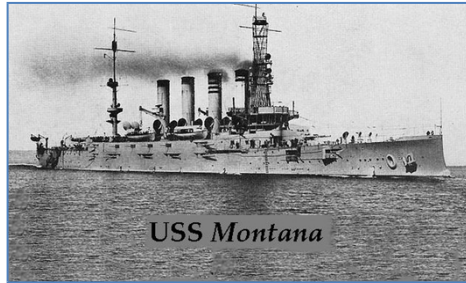


In the early afternoon of May 28th the *Montana* reported a submarine sighting on the starboard side of the convoy and the convoy commenced a zig-zag pattern for safety. The convoy was joined by 3 destroyers in the early morning hours of the 30th.¹²² One historian relates that the *SS Beltana* narrowly missed ramming a submarine on the 2nd of June and

¹²¹ Information on children mostly obtained through conversations and correspondence with Tony DeSilva, Morrisville, Pa., Marie Nabinger, Trenton, NJ and John Matelena, Trenton, NJ.

¹²² Royal Navy Logbook, *HMS Virginian*, 17 – 31 May 1918. http://www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WW1-08-HMS_Virginian.htm

that he watched as two Allied torpedo boats gave chase, destroying the U-boat with depth charges and watching its hull briefly break the surface before sliding out of sight about 300 yards off the bow of his ship – it's impossible to refute the account of a firsthand witness. The alleged sinking is corroborated in another unit history but in that retelling, two U-boats

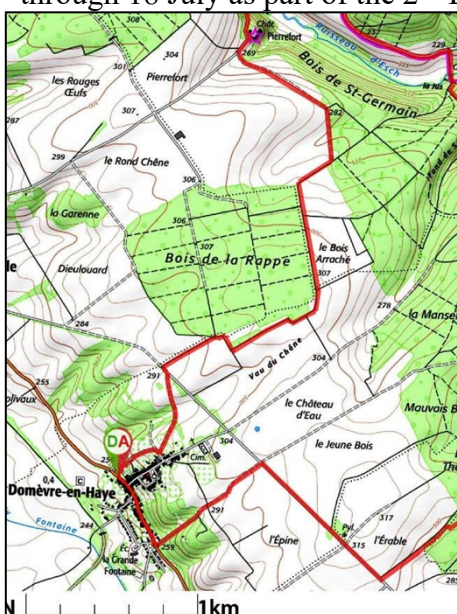


were sunk.¹²³

¹²³ George R. Morgan (Captain) Commander, Company "E" 312th Infantry 78th Division in France May 19th, 1918 to May 31st, 1919.(self published; 1919) p. 3 et. seq.



near Dover. On 3 June he boarded a fast channel steamer and, sandwiched between two American destroyers, made a dash for the coast of *Calais*.¹²⁵ They made for rest camps outside the town and, once there, exchanged their American rifles for English Enfield's. Training continued with a move to *Brunembert*, near *Nielles-lès-Bélquin* in Flanders, on 14 June; they stayed through 18 July as part of the 2nd British Army Corps. The better *rest camps* were long, low



buildings with a center aisle flanked by rows of bunk beds usually with a pile of much-used hay marked 'for beds'; the ones first encountered outside of Calais were tents originally made for 8 men now designated for 16.¹²⁶ On the 19th they entrained at *Lottinghen* in the morning, reaching their destination, *Ligny-Saint Flochel* station at 5:30 pm. From 18 July to 20 August they were in the *Arras* area near *Roellecourt* as a unit of the 1st British Army; 2nd Battalion was at *Maisnil-Saint Pol*. They were supervised by the 14th Highland Light Infantry until the 3rd of August. On August 4th they were entertained by one of the first Americans to venture close to the front lines, ELSIE JANIS, headliner on Broadway and London. There they manned the "G.H.Q. line" which was the second set of trenches a couple miles behind the front line trenches with Company E relieving Company B at *Bois d'Harbarcq* during the evening of August 6th. After this 24-hour trial in the trenches, the 2nd Battalion marched to *Hauteville* in anticipation of entering the front lines but this did not come to pass. They received orders on the 18th to prepare to leave for the American sector and 2 days later they marched some 8 miles to

¹²⁴ Thomas F. Meehan, *History of the Seventy-Eighth Division in the World War 1917-18-19* (Dodd, Mead and Company, NY; 1919).

¹²⁵ Benjamin Colonna, *History of Company B, 311th Infantry, in the World War* (Transcript Printing House, Freehold, NJ; 1922) pp. 11 – 16.

¹²⁶ Benjamin Colonna, *History of Company B, 311th Infantry, in the World War* (Transcript Printing House, Freehold, NJ; 1922) pp. 11 – 16.

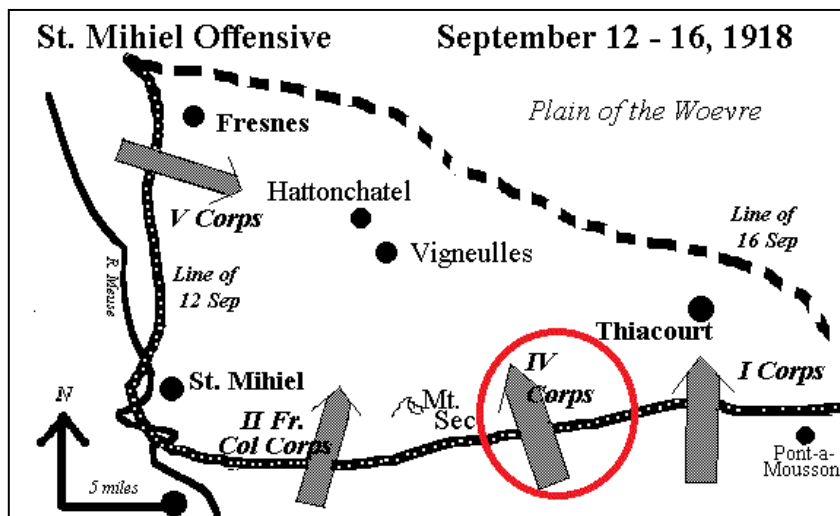
¹²⁶ Ashby Williams (Lt. Col., 320th Infantry, Company E) *Experiences of the Great War* (Roanoke, VA, Stone Mountain Printing; 1919) p. 16 et. seq.

Tinques, the railhead on Arras Road where, once entrained, they headed east. The enemy held most of this part of France since the *Battle of the Marne* in 1914; the Germans held Alsace and Lorraine since 1870. They, literally, travelled in cattle cars marked “*Hommes 40, Chevaux 8*” on the side. The two day ride on the rails skirted the northern extremes of *Paris* and followed the River Marne before detraining at the station in *Passavant-en-Argonne*, after which they may have been briefly assigned to the 6th Corps Staff, presumably the VI Army



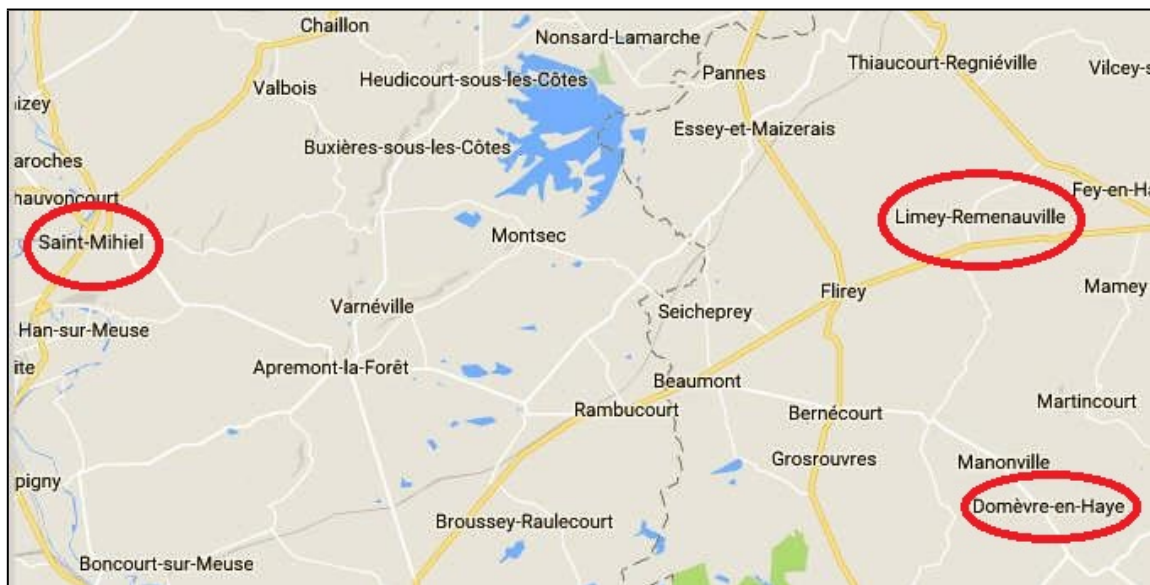
Corps that was activated 1 August at *Neufchâteau*.

Company E was billeted at *Martinville*, north of *Passavant* from the 22nd to 28th; they exchanged English *Enfield's* for French *Chauchats* and were assigned to the 1st Army Corps, I Corps (‘Eye’ Corps) which was activated at *Neufchâteau* by 20 January. The Regiment marched 13 miles, stopping in *Fresnes-sur-Apance*, a couple miles east of *Bourbonne-les-Bains* on the 28th, then to *Merrey* the next day; Company E headed 5 miles further and reached their assigned area of *Domblain* on the 30th. From here, at 9:00 pm on the 4th of September, the 311th began their first 8-hour night march, in a steady rain. Covering 15 miles that first night, they reached *Saulxures-lès-Bulgnéville*. The next night march took them northeast to *Courcelles* where they rested a couple of days and made good use of the time as, on 6th, a target range was set up where every man disposed of one 20-round magazine with their *chauchat*, the first and only practice before meeting the enemy. On Tuesday, the 10th, the afternoon march started out in a downpour but ended in a deluge with gale force winds an hour later. Around 4 pm they crammed 20 men to a French *camion* or motor truck near *Chatenois* that were driven all night by French colonial soldiers, *Annamites* or Vietnamese, to bivouac in the *Bois de la Côte-en-Haye*, east of *Tremblecourt*. ALBERT most likely had difficulty as he could not hike great distances without suffering from disabling pains over his heart area. The last move before the offensive had the 311th bivouacked a half-mile north of *Domèvre-en-Haye* in the *Bois de la Rappe*.



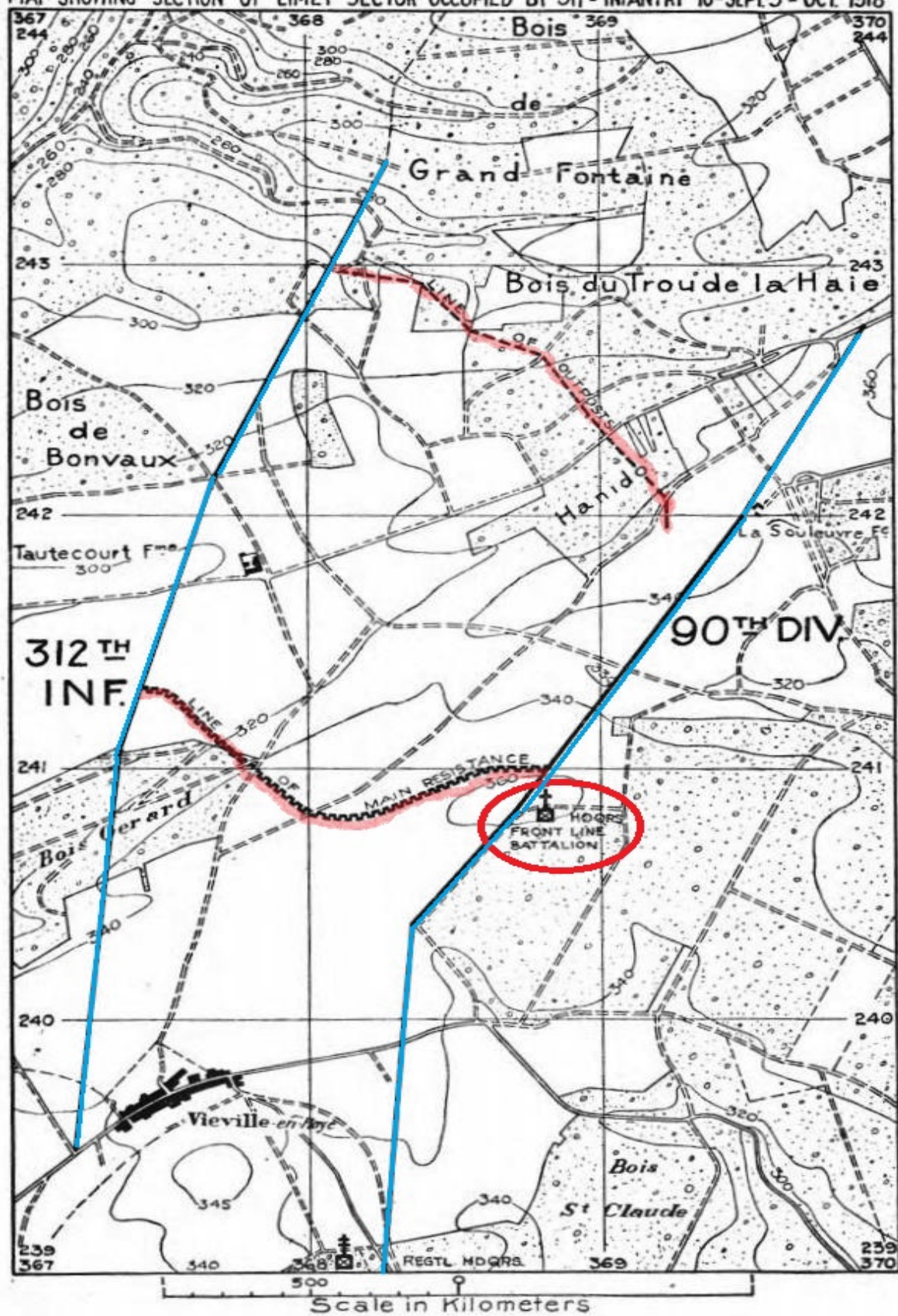
The St. Mihiel Offensive commenced at 1 am on the 12th of September with a 4-hour barrage followed by the advance of 7 American divisions at 5 am. On the 13th the 156th Brigade was hurriedly ordered to *Loge Mangin* to

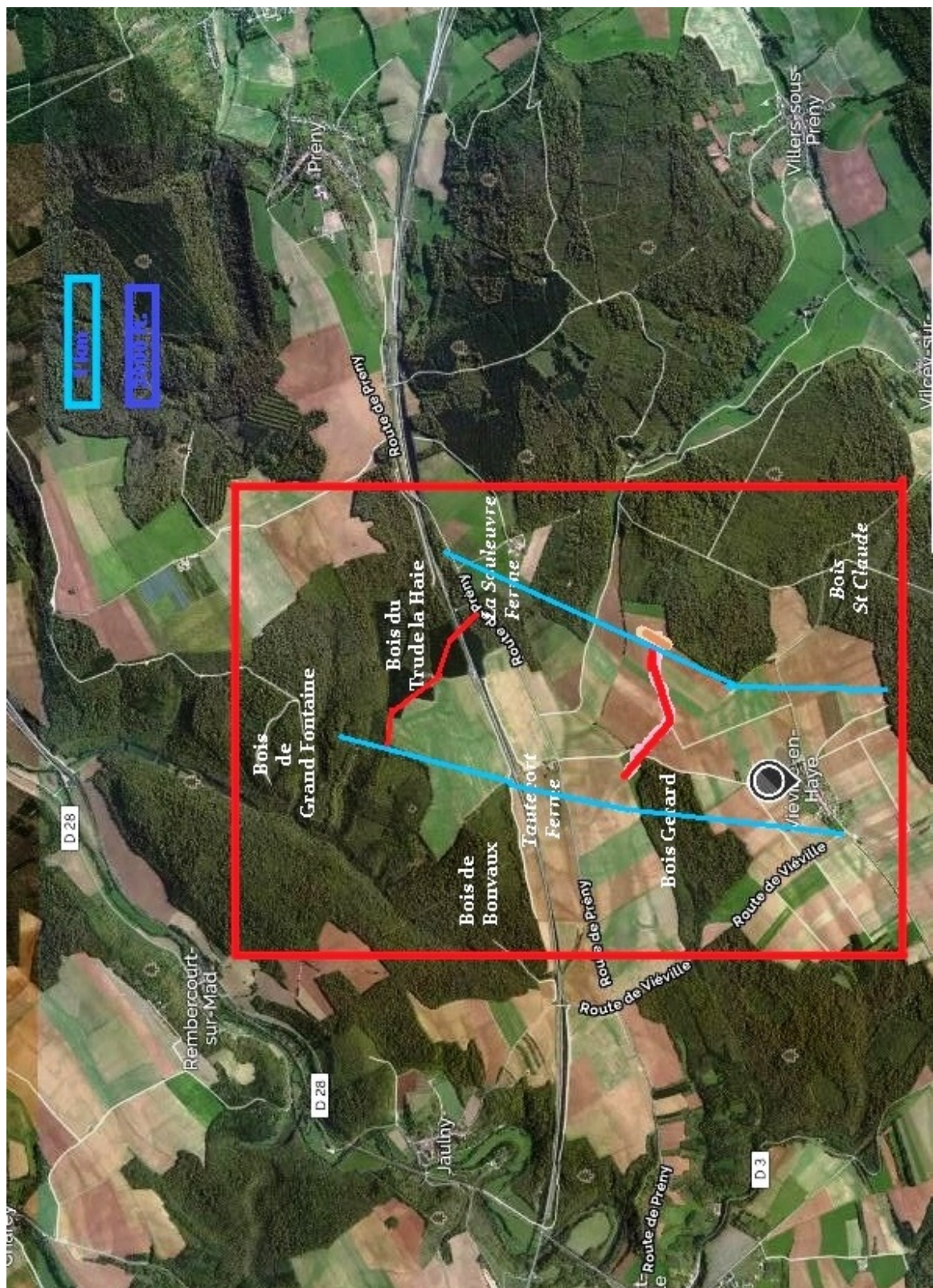
reinforce 2nd Division that was crumbling under a German counterattack. As they neared *Regnieville*, news was received from an indignant 2nd Division – first, they were not under attack and second, if they were, they certainly would not need any help! New orders materialized for them to head to the *Bois de Hocquemont* which they accomplished by 7 pm. Passing through *Regnieville* and *Remenauville*, two villages practically wiped off the earth, the men witnessed dead and dying animals all around, unburied dead soldiers and only ruins where once buildings stood; some men were ordered to rebuild the roads which proved useful the next day. The 14th saw them march over the very same roads they had helped build the day before as they retraced their march through the desolated villages, arriving at *Bois d'Euvezin* at 4:30 am. On the road almost nonstop for over 24 hours, they covered some 20 miles. While here they came under shell fire for the first time and being novices, gas attack warnings rang out 14 times that first night; only 3 were issued the following night. The 78th remained in reserve until the night of 15 September when it relieved the 2nd and 5th divisions. The first action seen by ALBERT must have been both frightening and exciting. After seven months of training and now actually participating in the war, one has to pause and wonder about the thoughts that accompanied him. At 8 pm on the 16th, the 311th and 312th, the 156th Brigade, began the relief of the 61st Infantry Regiment of the 5th Division at *Viéville-en-Haye*, the village suffering much destruction as seen in the photographs. Most has been rebuilt, including the *Église Saint-Airy* on Grande Rue, and the two farms on the map, *Tautecort* on the left and *La Souleuvre* on the right, are found with the same names on Google Maps today. A vigorous German counterattack had pushed back the line in front of 5th Division but the 311th and 312th successfully halted the enemy advance and quickly reclaimed the ground lost. The last few hours of the offensive on the 16th is why the 311th is credited with participating in the offensive. The offensive closed on the 16th and the *Lorraine Operation* opened on the 17th. 311th's 2nd Battalion took up the front lines with Company H in the outpost line, E, F, and G Companies in the main line and Battalion HQ in the *Forêt de Vencheres*, as indicated on the map. Their orders were to fortify the trenches on the main line



as well as the platoon strong points on the outpost line. The main line was 1.3 miles from the Hindenburg Line, one of the shortest separations in the American sector. The 2nd Battalion remained on the front line until being relieved by the 1st Battalion on the 22nd. The area was secured and from there, raids into German held territory continued to divert attention and resources from the upcoming Meuse-Argonne offensive; the 311th's first offensive was done by 1st Battalion through the *Bois de la Tru-de-la-Haye* on the 26th. After making a gain of a quarter-mile and taking a dozen machine gun nests and an equal number of prisoners, they had to fall back to the jumping off point after sustaining mounting casualties in an effective barrage and counterattack. According to Company B commander, this was the first time the men were exposed to the gruesome horrors of seeing your soldiers torn apart by shelling and machine guns – and never actually seeing the enemy that you are exchanging fire with. 2nd Battalion returned to the front lines from 27 September to 4 October while, to the west, the Meuse-Argonne offensive commenced the first phase of operations on 26 September. The German defenses between the Argonne and the Meuse were compressed to a depth of 20 kilometers and included the standard three lines: the outpost line *Giselher Stellung*, the main or 2nd line, the *Kriemhilde Stellung*, and the support trench, or *Freya Stellung*. Supplementing these were the *Hagen*, the *Volker* and the *Wiesenschlenken Stellung*. The main lines were constructed with concrete and had elaborate underground bunkers and facilities unknown on the French side. This concentrated defense protected the train lines, the coal fields, the iron mines, and, in the end, the line of retreat which pivoted in the Meuse-Argonne area.

MAP SHOWING SECTION OF LIMY SECTOR OCCUPIED BY 311TH INFANTRY 16TH SEPT-3RD OCT 1918





The 78th was officially relieved on 6 October and attached as reserve to the U.S. Army III Corps (activated 16 May). It seems they actually spent the 4th, an unusually sunny and warm afternoon, heading to the *Foret de la Reine*, but the 'front line battalion,' presumably 2nd Battalion as they were in the front lines when the order to move arrived, only making it to the *Bois des Grandes Portions*. The rest of the 311th made their intended destination at 5:30 am on the 5th. At 4 pm that same day, the reassembled Regiment marched to *Mécrin*, arriving at 11 pm. On 6 October, the Regiment marched for 11 hours, 14 miles, through *Campigny* and *Menil*, reaching *Pierrefitte-sur-Aire* at 10 pm. On the 8th, a 3 mile march south brought them to *Nicey-sur-Aire*, where they boarded busses, and were driven 24 miles to *Beauchamp Ferme* in *Foret d'Argonne*, arriving at 10pm. On the 10th they began marching at 7:30 am and covered 13 miles in the Argonne ending the march just west of *Montblainville*; the following day a short 3 mile hike took them to the *Bois de Chatel* where men from the 86th were added to fill out the ranks, bringing the 78th up to 16,756.¹²⁷ The roads were camouflaged with huge screens stretching for miles.¹²⁸

The 311th was assigned to the U.S. 1st Army Corps on 10 October and readied for their chance against the German 3rd Army's Group Argonne. That same day, the German's lost their iron grip on the Argonne Forest and shortly after contacted President Wilson regarding an armistice.¹²⁹

As one searches out their family history, many stories are told, some true, some not. This author well remembers being told by ALBERT that he was wounded in battle in the Forests of Argonne. Many years have passed since hearing that story in my parent's kitchen as a young child but I can vividly recall ALBERT pointing to a brass doorknob and comparing it to his bald head and stating that he lost his hair as a result of being gassed in WW I. I have tried to piece together a true account of that offensive.

At 9 pm on the night of 15 October, the 2nd Battalion of the 78th division marched out to

¹²⁷ Arthur E. Hartzell, *Meuse-Argonne Battle* (AEF General HQ, 1919) p. 10 *et seq.*

¹²⁸ Raymond L. Thompson, Captain, Regimental Operations and Intelligence Officer; *A History of the Three Hundred Tenth Infantry 78th Division*, (NY: 310th Association; 1919) p. 110.

¹²⁹ B.H. Allen, "The Greatest Battle Never Told: The Meuse-Argonne Offensive, 1918" 9 November 2015, original, unpublished historical research paper written for the historical research class of Porter Blakemore, Ph.D., professor, Department of History and American Studies, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Lightning Division Scaled Grand Pre Walls on Ladders

Four Times Beaten Back by
Germans, Col. Anderson
Writes, They Finally Took
City at Point of Bayonet

The Lightning Division, which trained at Camp Dix, N. J., swarmed into the walled city of Grand Pré by means of ladders, according to a letter Colonel Alvord V. P. Anderson, commander of the 312th Infantry, wrote to his wife, who is living in Newark, N. J. A twelve-foot wall surrounds Grand Pré. Colonel Anderson wrote, and the 309th, 311th and 312th Infantry swept forward four times on September 15 in vain attempts to take it, the foremost ranks bearing ladders on their shoulders.

Four times they were beaten back by the German fire, but they rallied and charged again. The fifth assault took the Americans right to the old wall, where they were partly sheltered from machine-gun fire, and up the ladders and into the city they poured, taking it at the point of the bayonet.

Colonel Anderson said that he had been gassed mildly by a shell which burst in his dugout and killed a lieutenant.

"I was called to the door for a minute," he wrote. "One of my lieutenants took my place at the table. When I came back five minutes later a shell had plunged through the roof and exploded in the poor fellow's lap. In trying to help him I was gassed, as the bomb must have contained gas as well as an explosive."

NY Tribune
3 Dec 1918

relieve the 77th from the front line as the fourth phase of the offensive got underway. The front line followed the railroad tracks from *Grandpré* heading east towards Chevieres, rounding that village on the north between it and the River Aire. The right held by the 77th was the western half of the town of *Saint-Juvin* which they had taken on the 14th and the left was that portion of *Grandpré* south of the east-west main street. Beginning at midnight, the Battalion P.C. was established in Chevieres and the relief was completed just before 5 am. The constant rain with knee-deep mud in some places, coupled with a lack of adequate scouting meant any effort to advance was hopeless. 1st Battalion was in support position and 3rd Battalion in Reserve.¹³⁰ The *History of Company B*, in the 1st Battalion, disagrees with this, stating that, rather than being in support, they relieved the 308th at 3 am on the 16th from their line west of *La Folle Ferme*. The 311th was facing the German Imperial 76th Division (252nd, 253rd and 254th Regiments) and the 2nd Landwehr Division (122 Landwehr Regiment).

While the relief of the 308th was happening, the 311th received field orders to attack at 6 am. Company B, having being informed of this at 5:30 am, just over 2 hours after they took up their positions, was on the road heading towards Chevieres at 6, as instructed, moving along roads that were *a mass of confusion*. What with the 77th heading back, the 311th heading up, the 308th heading back, Company B heading up, and there being just one road for all this movement, confusion is an understatement. In the confusion of that night, reconnaissance of the front line was not done and the ignorance and mistakes of guides led to ensuing troubles. Despite the hopelessness of the situation, the 311th launched their attack through the early morning mist at 6:35 without the benefit of an artillery barrage and with virtually no information about the enemies' position. One *history* states they *proceeded to take the town of Chevieres and advanced to the Aire River where two platoons were able to cross before the mist lifted. During the night of the 16th, the remaining troops crossed the Aire and moved to the west, advancing the line towards Grandpré, covering a distance less than a mile before being stopped by enemy fire*. This retelling does not match with the official unit history. Chevieres was where the 2nd Battalion was headquartered from the start! They could not make liaison with the 310th on their right with good reason – the 310th was not there! The 310th did not reach the front line for another 5 hours, at 11:30 am. The enemy had machine guns positioned in the woods north of Saint-Juvin Road, less than half a mile from the river. German artillery and machine gun fire prevented any advance for the day with the 311th casualties being 5 killed, 21 wounded and 21 gassed.

The Battalion was ordered to attack at 6:30 am on the 17th, which they did without an artillery barrage. The right advanced a mile to a crest north of Chevieres and the 311th was finally able to liaison with the 310th on their right and the 312th on their left. Casualties were 12 killed, 49 wounded and 49 gassed. That night, the 303rd Engineers threw 4 four bridges measuring 100' to 139', across the Aire. Located between *Chevieres* and *Grandpré*, each platoon was able to look to a relatively dry crossing.¹³¹

¹³⁰ Barnard Eberlin (Captain), *History of the 311th Infantry (78th Division)* (Flavigny-sur-Ozérain, France; 1919).

¹³¹ Joseph P.C. Roth, Sergeant, *History of Company "E" 303d Engineers of the 78th Division* (Rochester, NY: Joseph P. Smith Printers; 1919) p.126.

The 18th started with a similar order, a full front line attack at 6:30 am. This they did, again with no artillery barrage; they managed to advance to within a half-mile of their objective but had to retreat under withering enemy fire. Their objective for the 18th was to advance up the west side, and clear out, the *Bois de Loges*, which was protected by thirty machine guns, to outflank enemy positions held along the northwest edge of the wood.¹³² By noon the 311th's advance was stopped by enemy fire from *Grandpré* and the heights beyond. The 155th Brigade, made up of the 309th and 310th Regiments, had a similar objective that day to that of the 311th: advance up the east side of the *Bois*, maintaining contact with the 311th and sweep the enemy from the forest. The 310th had barely made any advance by noon, opening a mile-wide gap in which the *Ferme des Loges* was located, and occupied by the enemy. The 311th could make no advance against enemy fire coming from their left, *Grandpré*; their front, the heights; and their right, the *Ferme des Loges*, falling short of their objective, the northwest edge of the *Bois de Loges*, by a half-mile. The 311th's casualty list that day included 9 killed, 27 wounded and 14 gassed. ALBERT probably accounted for one of this number but the lack of consistency in the hospital records and the absence of his name on hospital rosters for that day, make this an educated guess at best. *Educated* because the 2nd Battalion was relieved by the 1st Battalion by 10 pm that night, thus they were removed from the front line. As such, it is less likely that ALBERT would be advancing up a hill and dodging enemy machine gun fire. The 311th headed to *La Besogne*, taking up the reserve position.

¹³² *Op.Cit*, Merriman (fn 111)

As ALBERT later told his younger brother JOHN, he was advancing up a hill and, upon reaching the top, the Germans opened fire. ALBERT jumped into a foxhole that had chlorine gas in it (ALBERT always said mustard gas, but records of the Army Expeditionary Forces say chlorine gas). He was immobilized and had to be dragged out of the hole and taken to an aid station. From there he was sent to Field Hospital 309 at *Apremont* which was used to treat



gassed soldiers. On 21 October he was transferred to Field Hospital 312 and evacuated on 22 October via Evacuation Hospital 9 to Ward 45, Base Hospital 114 at Camp Beau Désert, near *Pichey*, west of *Bordeaux*, arriving there on 24 October 1918. Records indicate a variety of diagnoses: dysentery and gastroenteritis at FH 312 and EH 9, trench foot at BH 114 and aortic incompetence; and dates ranging from the 18th to the 21st as the date of injury. Beau Désert was slated to encompass 6 base hospitals: 22, 104, 106, 111, 114 and 121; plus Prov. B.H. N^o. 7. It operated with almost 7,000 beds, perhaps up to 10,000.¹³³ Medical Department records state that, of the 6 planned hospitals, only the 22nd and 114th were actually in operation at the end of the war. He was in Ward 45 followed by Ward 73 at BH114 for 4 days total before being transferred to the Convalescent Camp of BH114 on 28 October where he remained for six weeks. While his military record reflects the injuries and the hospitals, the daily hospital records do not list him at all. ALBERT listed his nearest relative as "UNCLE FRANCIS DEGNI" of Naples, Italy; *nearest* being in distance. He remained convalescing until 7 December 1918 when he was returned to his unit in *Braux-Saint-Remy*.

The *Trenton Evening Times* of 5 December 1918 carried the headline "*Pershing Praises Trenton Soldiers. 78th and 29th Divisions Among Troops General Said Had 'Steel Nerves'.*" The *State Gazette* (NJ) and *Trenton Evening Times* of 6 December 1918 carried the following article:¹³⁴

¹³³ Antonin Guiulot, *The American Camp at Allerey (1918 – 1919)* "The American Hospital Centers" (1999) <http://net.lib.byu.edu/~rdh7/www/comment/Allerey/Allerey03e.html>

¹³⁴ "Count" Matelena Wounded in France" *The State Gazette*, 6 December 1918, p.3, Trenton, NJ; and

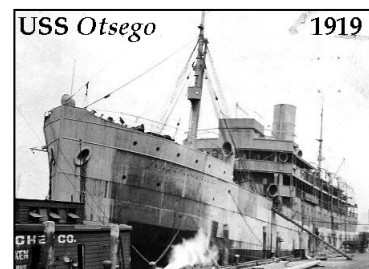
"Five Local Boys Among Wounded. Badstenbner, Matalena, Radice, Poland and Keegan on Casualty List" *Trenton Evening Times*, 6 December 1918, p.2, Trenton, NJ.



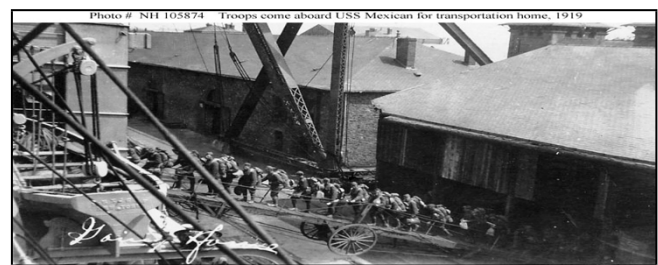
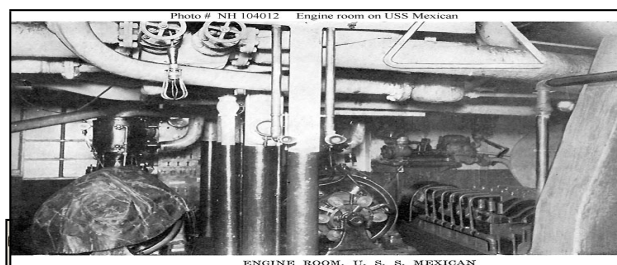
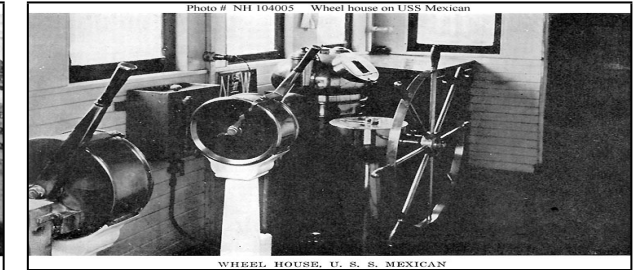
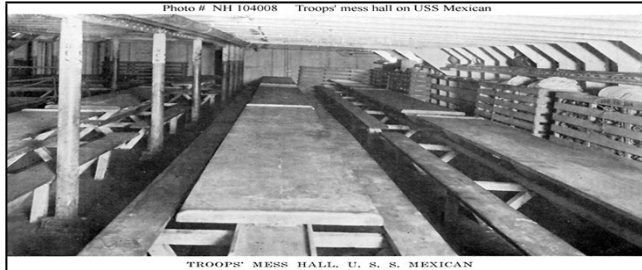
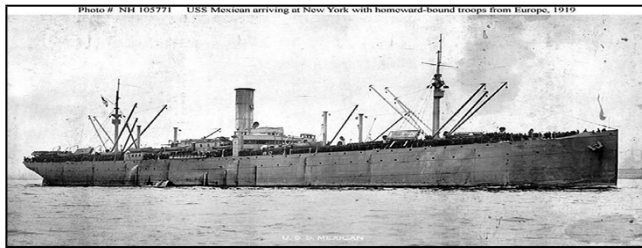
"COUNT" MATELENA WOUNDED IN FRANCE:

Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH MATELENA, of 421 Princeton Avenue, have received word that their son, PRIVATE ALBERT J. MATELENA has been wounded and gassed in battle. He is now convalescent at Camp Beau Desert, France. MATELENA, better known among his friends as "Count," is a member of Company E, 311th Infantry. He received his military training at Camp Dix and went overseas with that division.

The 311th continued with daily attacks, including artillery barrages from the day the 1st Battalion took the front lines, but by 20 October the enemy had fully dislodged them from the *Bois de Loges* and the 311th was back to Saint-Juvin Road, where the 311th had been 5 days earlier. As the Imperial forces crumbled, they started to advance beginning on the 21st and continuing to do so through the 5th of November when they were relieved by the 77th. Of the 78th's 493 deaths, losses in the 311th accounted for over half – 298 deaths, 231 of whom were killed in action; slightly over 8% of the Regiment. The 78th's wounded came to 4,696. After the Armistice on 11 November, the 311th boarded trains at *Dommartin-sur-Yèvre* and headed south about 130 miles, to the 21st Training Area where Regimental Headquarters located at *Semur-en-Auxois*. The 2nd Battalion detrained at *Les Lame-Alesia* and marched 3 miles to *Pouillenay*; from there each unit went to their assigned location. Company E headed off to a small village called *Braux-Saint-Remy* in the *Marne departement*; its population has not exceeded 100 since 1962. Located some 6 miles south of *Sainte Menehould* in the *Cote d'Or*, ALBERT rejoined his unit there in mid-December, staying until mid-April 1919. Company B was quartered in *Flavigny-sur-Ozerman*, the setting used in the 2000 film *Chocolat*. In the mornings they would drill and practice with firearms while the afternoons were devoted to athletics. *The Flash*, the newspaper of the 78th, made its debut on 6 February; its French run ended with the 10 May issue. Each week 350 men would be given passes for 7 to 10 days in one of the designated leave areas including the *Riviera*,



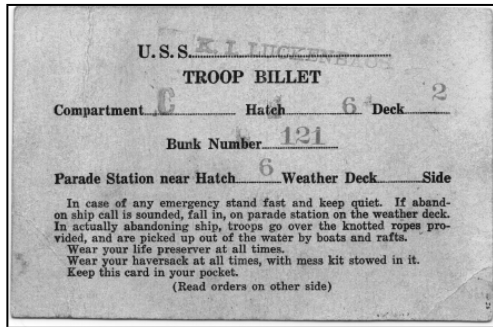
Aux-les-Bains, La Bourboule, Grenoble and others. Men could also get an extended leave to visit



family in other parts of France, Great Britain and Italy. It's nice to think that ALBERT took advantage of this, but we'll never know. On 26 March the entire 78th Division massed at *Les Laumes* for Inspection and Review by GENERAL JOHN J. PERSHING. On 21 April, the 78th Division Association was created to assist the men in returning to civilian life.

In the last 2 weeks of April, they headed towards *Bordeaux* in southwest France, landing in *Beautiran* in the *Gironde departement* on the 30th. The 311th then moved to the American Docks at *Bassens*, across the

Garrone from *Bordeaux*, some 62 miles from the Atlantic Ocean. The units of the 311th headed home as vessels became available. The *USS Mexican (ID 1655)* carried 2,404 military personnel including the 311th Infantry Field and Staff, Headquarters and



Supply Companies, Medical Detachment, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, and the Ordnance Detachment. Reported in newspapers as sailing from *Bordeaux*, this usually meant *Bassen*, but this vessel used the port at Saint-Nazaire in Brittany as a home port and may have departed from there on the 10th. The ship docked in Hoboken, NJ, reported as New York, on the 22nd of May.¹³⁵ Companies A, B and C of 1st Battalion embarked at 8 pm on 10 May aboard the former Hamburg America Line passenger liner, *Prince Eitel Fredrich*. This vessel, built in 1901, was recommissioned as the US Navy Transport Ship USS *Otsego* (ID-1628) on 7 February 1919. The *Otsego* docked on 23 May.¹³⁶ Other units of the 78th were transported on the *Radnor* (ID-3023, 312th, NY 25 May), the *Montpelier* (ID-1954, 312th, Phila, 26 May); the *Santa Paula* (ID-1590, 309th, NY, 28 May); the *Kroonland* (ID-1541) or the *Santa Ana* carried the 78th Div HQ to New York; the *Julia Luckenbach* (ID-2407, 310th, NY, 29 May); and the *Edward Luckenbach* (ID-1662, Infantry Detachment of 311th, NY, 29 May).¹³⁷ The Troop Billet he received has clear and concise instructions; whether they were useful or not is a different concern.



¹³⁵ *The Sun* (NY), 22 May 1919, p. 7; *The Evening World* (NY), 22 May 1919, p. 10.

¹³⁶ *The Sun* (NY), 23 May 1919, p. 5

¹³⁷ *The Sun* (NY), 25 May 1919, p. 14; *New York Tribune*, 26 May 1919, p. 11, 30 May 1919, p. 13; *The Sun* (NY), 28 May 1919, p. 11

Company order No. 7, dated 19 May 1919 at *Pouillenay*, France lists ALBERT as one of the men of Company E, 311th Infantry, entitled to wear 2 *Service Chevrons* which designated being wounded. He was also awarded the *Silver Victory Button* and received \$60.00 in bonus pay.¹³⁸ During the war he had the Army send a part of his pay to his parents. The 156th Brigade was demobilized at Camp Dix on 26 May 1919 and there was a “reception” in their honor in Trenton that same day.¹³⁹ He received an Honorable Discharge in the rank of Private on 30 May 1919.¹⁴⁰ This same day the City of Trenton announced there would be an official reception for the 311th as well as a memorial service on 1 June for the war dead at Cadwalader Park.¹⁴¹ Trenton’s war veterans of Company E had their first reunion on 21 August 1919 at the War Camp Community Services club rooms. ALBERT was one of over 40 men that attended the reunion which included a showing of Charlie Chaplin’s “Shoulder Arms.” He was a member of “Veterans of World War I,” most likely a group that included the Company E members as a subgroup.

ALBERT found that working indoors was not agreeable to his health and he sought work that had him out of doors. He also found he could no longer play a baseball game as he had done before the war. During the summer of 1920 he was a huckster, earning \$150.00 a month. In April and May 1921 he worked at amusement stands for the same pay. At this time he was giving his parents \$50.00 a month. Other than these short periods of work, ALBERT lived off his savings and also worked at the Little Gem Restaurant at 318 North Broad Street, near the Battle Monument in Trenton.¹⁴² It is thought that one of ALBERT’S nephews owned this restaurant. In 1921 he received a 10% disability award, retroactive to his discharge in 1919, for injuries received during the war. This award was continued until 1925. He became a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Trenton Lodge No. 105; on 19 October 1922.¹⁴³ He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart in 2005.

He married DOROTHY SOUTHARD on 9 November 1922. It is not certain how this marriage came about with ALBERT being 26 and DOROTHY only 15. Several things are known – first, 26 was considered to be quite old to be single; second, ALBERT almost certainly knew

¹³⁸ Veteran's Administration records, Bayonne, NJ, for Albert Matelena.

¹³⁹ *Trenton Times*, “Trenton Winds Up Best Year In Its History,” 1 January 1920; at: <http://trentonhistory.org/Index/Index1919.html>

¹⁴⁰ Statement of Service of Albert Matelena, No. 2-409-639; Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63132

¹⁴¹ Notice appeared in the *Trenton Times* or the *True American*, 26 May 1919.

¹⁴² *Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory*, 1905 and 1905 Census of the State of New Jersey, see note 19

¹⁴³ Robert E. Flynn, Sr., BPOE Lodge 105, letter to author, 29 January 1986.

DOROTHY's mother, ELIZABETH VANKIRK before meeting DOROTHY; and third, they were married quickly, in a locale that didn't scrutinize the application for a marriage license too carefully as DOROTHY's age is incorrect. Some things are hinted at – ALBERT had a long-time girlfriend of Italian descent that, for reasons unknown, he couldn't, or wouldn't, marry; and DOROTHY's mother was in a very precarious position financially and supporting herself and three children must have been extremely difficult. Other things are now known to not be correct, but may contain a kernel of truth – ELIZABETH did not “arrange” this marriage in exchange for employment in ALBERT's restaurant, she never worked for ALBERT or in a restaurant. Lastly, some things may never be known – who was ALBERT's girlfriend and did she, in fact, accompany the newlyweds on their honeymoon? How long did this mysterious relationship continue? Does this tie-in with the animosity expressed by ALBERT's family towards a person or family with the name of ANNA RINALDI or RISALDI? (Continued in separate file)

- 7) JOHN MATELENA: birth certificate gives their address as 2199 First Avenue.¹⁴⁴ After their move to Trenton he was baptized at Chiesa de San Gioancomo (Saint Joachim), the newly opened Italian Church, on 16 November 1902. Godparents were MICHELE and MARGARITA COLUCCI. Working at DeLaval by 1920, JOHN is found on the “red Sox” team in their bowling league.¹⁴⁵ He married JOSEPHINE YACCARINO (born 10 June 1902, Philadelphia, daughter of FRANK and MARY YACCARINO). In 1922, they were witnesses at the marriage of his brother ALBERT in Maryland. JOHN and JOSEPHINE lived upstairs at 13 Fountain Avenue in 1925 and ‘26, where they sublet from ALBERT for \$25.00 a month, who claims to have rented the house from his parents, though they may not have actually owned it. JOHN was a drafts man at this time and they moved to 1043 Melrose Avenue by 1927.¹⁴⁶ In 1950 they sold the Melrose Avenue home and lived briefly in the Mercerville Mobile Home Park in Robbinsville, NJ. They purchased another home at 2080 Liberty Street in 1953, with FRANK and ANNE YACCARINO as co-purchasers.¹⁴⁷ JOHN worked at DeLaval Steam and Turbine Company where he has several patents. One was for an ‘Inflatable Aerial Projection Display Device’ which allowed images to be projected onto the service of a hot air balloon.¹⁴⁸ JOSEPHINE was a saleswoman at Joyce Dress Shop and later a receptionist at the Adam & Eve Spa, owned by their daughter and son-in-law. They later lived on East State Street Extension in Hamilton Township. For unknown reasons, ownership of the MATELENA plot for JOHN's

¹⁴⁴ Birth certificate of Giovanni Maddalena, Certificate number 3605, 1901; Municipal Archives and Records Retention Center, 31 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007.

¹⁴⁵ *Trenton Evening Times*. (Trenton, NJ) 3 April 1920.

¹⁴⁶ Fitzgerald's Trenton and Mercer County Directory, 1926, p.667; 1927, p.658; 1928, p.670; (Fitzgerald Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ); available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ; and Mercer County Deeds, vol. 1131, p.299, Mercer County Court House, So. Broad St., Trenton.

¹⁴⁷ Mercer County Deeds, volume 1186, page 325, and volume 1254, page 487; Mercer County Court House, South Broad Street, Trenton.

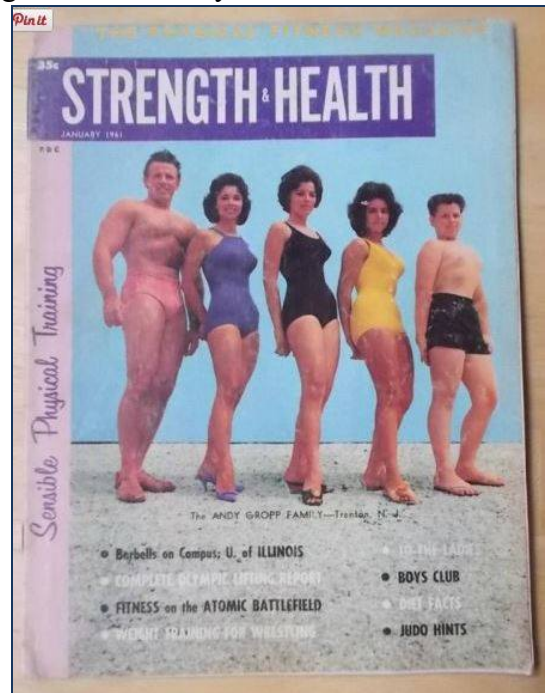
¹⁴⁸ United States Patent Office, Patent 2,595,444, filed 12 April 1950, patented 8 April 1952.

parents and sister in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* is in his name; he may have accompanied his mother when the plot was originally purchased in 1925. JOSEPHINE died on 28 November 1995 at Lawrenceville Nursing Home where she had lived with JOHN for several years. She was entombed in *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery* Mausoleum in Trenton. JOHN died at the nursing home, Wednesday, 3 September 1997 and was entombed with his wife.

- a) GLADYS MARIE MATELENA: born 19 July 1924, baptized at Saint Mary's Cathedral on 24 August 1924, godparents were FRANK YACCARINO and ELOISE ASTHORY. She married ANDREW J. GROPP, III on 6 January 1942 at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Trenton, NJ. He was the son of WALTER and FRANCIS (CLINTON) GROPP. They lived in the Mercerville Mobile Home Park in Robbinsville, NJ around the same time as her parents. GLADYS' cousin ALBERTA lived in the same park with her husband VALENTINE W. SMITH.

They were both very active in the physical fitness business. For a time, probably in the late 1940s-early 1950s, they lived in Southern California where they learned the business of operating a health facility. Returning to Trenton, they founded one of the

area's first health clubs, *Gropp's Adam and Eve Health Spa*, years prior to the advent of the fitness movement. Located at 1601 South Clinton Avenue, the family lived on the second floor above the *Spa*. Over the years they helped many relatives get started on their physical fitness programs, as well as employing several family members in their spas. Many locals speak highly of the spa, especially the dedication of ANDY to the members. The family was featured on the cover of *Strength and Health*, a national fitness magazine during the term of JOHN F. KENNEDY as President, named as "America's Fittest Family." The photo is of the family, in an athletic stance, and the accompanying story dealt with KENNEDY's fitness program that was instituted throughout the public education system in the U.S. Both daughters



were repeatedly humiliated by the nuns at Holy Angels School for posing in such a disgraceful manor and they readily bad-mouthed their parents. GLADYS was also an "accomplished, award winning artist."¹⁴⁹ GLADYS' parents moved in with them as they grew older until they needed constant supervision and care. After the death of her parents, the MATELENA plot in *Saint Mary's Cemetery* became hers under law; the cemetery office has no record of any transfer of title. In later years, GLADYS and ANDY spent their winters in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. GLADYS' health deteriorated in the latter part of 2002 attributable to a rare brain disease, cerebral ameloid angeoplasty. She moved in with her

¹⁴⁹ *The Times*, Obituaries (Trenton, NJ) 13 March 2003.

daughter DRU in February 2003. Shortly before she passed she started to ask for “MARIE” who her daughter did not know. Meanwhile, in another part of Trenton GLADYS’ cousin MARIE (MATELENA) NABINGER was also deteriorating and started to ask for “GLADYS.” Likewise, her children did not know who she was talking about. GLADYS died on 11 March 2003 at DRU’s home. Her cousin MARIE passed shortly after on 7 June 2003. GLADYS’ funeral was directed by the Kingston & Kemp Funeral Home, Hamilton Township, NJ. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Saint Michael’s Church, Trenton, NJ. A memorial service was held at *Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery*, Fort Lauderdale, FL, where she is buried. ANDY moved permanently to the Fort Lauderdale area shortly thereafter. He died 22 July 2009 in Pompano Beach, FL and was buried with his wife. The obituary posted on FindAGrave:

Andrew J. 'Andy' Gropp POMPAÑO BEACH, FL - Andrew J. "Andy" Gropp passed away July 22, 2009 at the Vitas Hospice Center in Pompano Beach, FL, with his family by his side. Andy and Gladys Gropp were early pioneers of the health spa industry in New Jersey, which was their passion; locations included the original Gropp's Health Studio on S. Clinton Ave, Trenton, and the Adam & Eve Spa in Lawrenceville. Andy was particularly proud of having his family on the cover of Strength and Health magazine and the many articles praising their accomplishments in the health spa industry. Their dedication and commitment earned them many loyal customers and friends. Born in White Horse, NJ, he was a longtime resident of Lawrenceville, NJ before he and Gladys retired to Fort Lauderdale, FL. Andy was a star football player, graduated from Trenton Catholic Boys High School, attended the Blair Academy and held numerous awards for body building and weight lifting. He was a 1st lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, a radar bombardier navigator in the Strategic Air Command, and a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife and business partner, Gladys, and his daughter, Donna Gropp. He was the son of the late Walter and Francis (Clinton) Gropp, brother of the late Walter Gropp Jr., and Lucine Howarth, and son-in-law of the late John and Josephine Matelena. Andy is survived by his son, Ron Gropp of Pompano Beach, FL; daughter and son-in-law, Dru and Tom Damico of Robbinsville, NJ; grandson, Andrew J. Gropp of Ruther Glen, VA; grandson and his wife, Jon Darrick and Michele Gropp of Fort Myers, FL; great-grandchildren, Jon, Andrew Joseph and Danielle Gropp; sister, Ellen Wilno of Hamilton, NJ; sister-in-law, Audrey Gropp of Jacksonville, FL, and several nieces and nephews. There are no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Aug. 14, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Pompano Beach, FL. Burial will follow in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Memorial donations may be sent to VITAS Hospice Charitable Fund, 5420 NW 33rd Ave., Suite 100, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 in memory of Andrew Gropp. He is loved dearly and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

- i) DRUSILLA GROPP: married TOM D'AMICO; live in Robbinsville, NJ. As the eldest child, DRU inherited the MATELENA plot, with the one empty grave (and upkeep bills that have not been paid since the 1960s according to the office) in *Saint Mary's*

- Cemetery*. It is not known if she is aware of this fact. Having no children herself, the next to inherit would be her brother RONALD.
- ii) RONALD ANDREW GROPP: lives in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
 - (1) JON DARRICK GROPP: wife is MICHELLE; they live in Ft. Myers, FL.
 - (a) JON GROPP⁺
 - (b) DANIELLE GROPP^{*+}
 - (c) ANDREW JOSEPH GROPP^{* +}
 - (2) ANDREW (DREW) J. GROPP: lives in Ruther Glen, VA.
 - (a) ALEXANDRA GROPP
 - (b) DESTINY GROPP^{*}
 - * These three grandchildren of GLADYS are known from her obituary;
 - ⁺ These three from ANDY'S obituary; it is not clear why the names of JON and ALEXANDRA were omitted from GLADYS' obituary while that of ALEXANDRA and DESTINY were omitted from ANDY'S.
 - iii) DONNA MARIE GROPP: born 1946; died 9 January 1994; *Our Lady Queen of Heaven Cemetery*, Fort Lauderdale.

Husband's Name:

GIOVANNI MADDALENA

Born: 6 April 1817 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie¹
Married: 25 May 1845 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
Died:
Father: PIETRO MADDALENA (? to 2 May 1836)
Mother: CATARINA PEPE (1773/7 to 29 December 1847)

Wife's Name:

MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA

Born: 10 July 1824 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
Died:
Father: TOMMASO D'AMBROSA (1743/62 to 10 May 1834)
Mother: FELICIA SACCO (1775/87 to 31 March 1867)

Where: *Provincia di Terra di Lavoro*
Regno delle Due Sicilie

Issue:	Born:	
1. FILOMENA MADDALENA	11 April 1846	Piedimonte d'Alife
2. VINCENZO MADDALENA	26 April 1848	Piedimonte d'Alife
3. MICHELE MADDALENA	22 May 1850	Piedimonte d'Alife
4. LUIGI MADDALENA	7 August 1852	Piedimonte d'Alife
5. GIUSEPPE MADDALENA	17 March 1854	Piedimonte d'Alife
6. VITTORIA MADDALENA	27 June 1856	Piedimonte d'Alife
7. DAVIDE MADDALENA	18 September 1858	Piedimonte d'Alife
8. MARCELLINO MADDALENA	30 November 1860	Piedimonte d'Alife
<i>Regno d'Italia</i>		
9. CONCETTA MADDALENA	1 February 1863	Piedimonte d'Alife
10. CONCETTA MADDALENA	25 February 1864	Piedimonte d'Alife
11. FELICE MADDALENA	22 April 1867	Piedimonte d'Alife ²

There have been many changes in the area for 200 years. In 1815 the *Regno di Napoli*, Kingdom of Naples, became part of the combined *Regno delle Due Sicilie*, Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, with GIUSEPPE BONAPARTE as King (and later resident of Bordentown). In 1861 it was absorbed by the *Regno d'Italia*, the Kingdom of Italy. In 1816 the *Province of Terra di Lavoro* lost its southern lands when a separate *Province of Naples* was created. Since 1861, the 20 larger *Regioni* in Italy, similar to our States, have assumed most of the power. The *Regioni di Campania* has 4 Provinces and the city of Naples. Piedimonte d'Alife became the jurisdictional center for several neighboring towns including Dragoni, Caiazzo and Piano di Caiazzo, Alvignano, and many others. All official business including paying taxes, recording deeds,

¹ Vital record information obtained from Archivio di Stato di Caserta, Italy or, when noted, from familysearch.org

² Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Nascita, 1867, No. 90, familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > images 473 - 474 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

getting a marriage license, presenting for military duty and so on was conducted at Piedimonte.³ In 1927 the huge *Province of Terra di Lavoro* was dismantled; parts in the northwest joined the Province of Frosinone; the central part, with Piedimonte d'Alife, joined Benevento to the north; and the western part went to Campobasso. The coastal lands and the Pontine Islands were taken in 1934 to create the new Province of Latina. The central areas of the old province were resurrected in 1945 as the *Province of Caserta*. The name of the town was changed to *Piedimonte Matese* in 1970. The official reason given was that it reflected the towns' strategic importance to the Matese Plateau, but, in reality, it reflected the loss of importance of its namesake city of Alife.

GIOVANNI and MARIA posted notice of their *Intent to Marry* on the doors of City Hall on 4 May 1845 and they received their license on 23 May. The witnesses for the license were LUIGI ANTONUCCI, NUNCIO D'FRACESO, MARENO BESO and GIUSEPPE TERRAZZO. The ceremony was performed at the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore* on 25 May. The witnesses were PIETRO MASELLO and FRANCESCO GIRIBONI. After their marriage they lived on *Strada Piasetta*, probably near GIOVANNI's father. GIOVANNI was a blacksmith and MARIA was a spinner for the local mill. By 1848 they moved off *Strada Piasetta* and in 1850 they were on *Strada Crocevia*, southeast of the town center. In 1852 they were on *Strada Ponte* and MARIA was a seamstress. 1854 finds them on *Strada Molino* (Mill Street); in 1856 and 1858 they were back on *Strada Crocevia*. By 1860 they were again living on *Strada Molino*. The birth report of the second CONCETTA in 1864 finds them living in the north part of town at *No. 17 via Torano*. In 1867 they were living on *Strada Ponte del Molina* when GIOVANNI, son of PIETRO, registered the birth of their son FELICE, *FELIX*, on the 25th of April. Still a blacksmith, he was now 50 and his wife MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA was 42. The registration is not on the usual form but is fully handwritten which may be one reason why MARIA is identified as *the daughter of the deceased FELIX* without a second parent named. Her mother FELICIA had passed away 3 weeks earlier and when asked for parent's names, GIOVANNI said FELICIA. The clerk entered the masculine form of the name where the father's name would be entered.

They belonged to the parish of the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*. All their children were baptized in the Basilica. No record of military service has been found for GIOVANNI. No death certificates for GIOVANNI or MARIA have been located in the Caserta archives.

ANNA BALDINI, daughter of GIOVANNI CARUSO, and MARCELLINO CARUSO, son of VINCENZO CARUSO lived at 10 via Sorgente until 1869. Both families had long ties to the town but ANNA and GIOVANNI moved to the city of Naples where, in 1873, their son ENRICO was born. The son studied music and is the world-renowned tenor ENRICO CARUSO.⁴

ISSUE:⁵

- 1) FILOMENA MADDALENA:
- 2) VINCENZO MADDALENA: blacksmith; at 22 he married the 42-year-old CAROLINA DEL SANTA daughter of PAOLO and RACHELE PATERNO in Piedimonte d'Alife on 23 April 1870.⁶

³ Mary Jane Phillips-Matz. *Rosa Ponselle, American Diva*. (Northeastern University Press, Lebanon, New Hampshire; 1977)

⁴ *supra*. Phillips-Matz. *Ponselle*. 1st ch. <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/books/first/p/phillips-ponselle.html>

⁵ Information on issue obtained from birth certificates and obituary of Joseph Matelena (Giuseppe Maddalena).

- 3) MICHELE (MICHAEL) MADDALENA: Emigrated to Buenos Aires, Argentina. He may have been in New Haven with brother MARCELLINO from 1901 to 1907 where a MICHELE MADDALENA was employed by Sargent & Co., the same place that MARCELLINO was employed until 1902 at least. This New Haven MICHELE was a border living at 71 Broad in 1901, 70 Congress Ave. in 1906 and 798 Grand Ave. in 1907. Interesting, a SALVATORE MADDALENA also lived at 798 Grand Ave. in 1902.
- 4) LUIGI MADDALENA: married MARIA ELEMENTINA FERRITO in Potito Lovitico on 9 January 1882. Emigrated from Italy and established himself in Buenos Aires, Argentina with his brother MICHELE.
- 5) **GIUSEPPE MADDALENA**: baptized on 18 March 1854. (see separate file)
- 6) VITTORIA MADDALENA: baptized 28 June 1856; married PASQUALE GRANDE at 1 pm on Tuesday, 30 December 1884 at City Hall in Piedimonte d'Alife. She is described as the 28-year-old *lady of the house* and he a 37-year-old farmer and a native of the town being the son of ALESSANDRO GRANDE and MARIA DOMENICA PIETROSIMONE.⁷
- 7) DAVIDE MADDALENA:
- 8) MARCELLINO MADDALENA: a 27-year-old blacksmith married RESTITUTA CANUTA, 24-years-old, parents unknown, at Noon on Thursday, 24 May 1888 at City Hall in Piedimonte d'Alife. The marriage entry in the *Registri* states she was born in Piedimonte d'Alife.⁸ Another MADDALENA researcher believes she may have been born in Dragoni located a short distance south of Alife. He has found her name in various records as *RESCIHITA CANNTA*, *MARIA RESTITTATA*, *MARIA IAMATEN*, and *MARY GIAMETTI*. Her parents have been named as *GIUSEPPE MARTINO* and ____ *GIUDITTA*. Identifying the correct one has been elusive however *MARIA MARTINO* was given by her husband on her death certificate which confuses the picture even more. They emigrated to the U.S., arriving on the *Assyria* in New York City on 2 April 1893, just 4 months after MARCELLINO's brother GIUSEPPE. The ship's passenger list included a daughter named GIOVANNINA who has yet to be clearly identified.⁹ The New Haven directories have MARCELLINO living at 91 Oak as a border in 1894, '95, and '96; and as a border in 1897 at 4 Dow. He was employed by Sargent & Co. through 1902. In 1898 and '99 they lived at 440 Congress Ave. In 1901 they lived at 22 Rose Street and 14 Palmer. In 1902 they are at 75 County. In 1903 they are found at 81 Oak Street in New Haven. In early

⁶ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Matrimonio, 1870, No. 23, familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > images 1222 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

⁷ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Matrimonio, 1888, No. 43; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 2144 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁸ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Matrimonio, 1884, No. 24; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1706 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁹ Michael Maddalena, Oxford, CT, letters with copies of records to author from 27 October 1995 through 9 September 1998.

March 1903, RESTITUTA, about 8 months pregnant, came down with pneumonia and died on 15 March 1903. She was attended to by WILLIAM F. VERDI, M.D. and was buried in *Saint Lawrence Cemetery*. According to BARBARA COSTANZO, MARCELLINO's daughters raised VINCENZO. From 1906 to 1908 MARCELLINO was living at 29 Springside Avenue and was employed by Griest Manufacturing Company through 1913. From 1909 to 1911 he lived at 1 Sherman, then 26 Vine in 1913 and 1914. In 1921 and '22 he appears as a machinist living at 660 Congress Avenue. In 1923 and '24 he is found at 893 Congress Avenue. In 1925 MARCELLINO was living in West Haven, CT as the Anglicized MARSHALL. In 1927 he appears again in New Haven as a dishwasher living at 83 Chestnut. He is supposed to have moved to Newark, NJ in 1928 where he stayed for an, as yet, undetermined amount of time. He returned to New Haven by 1936 where he lived at 12 Garden with his son DOMINIC until his death. He died in New Haven on 17 April 1938 and is interred in Saint Bernard's Cemetery, New Haven.

- a) CARMELA MADDALENA: born 6 June 1894, baptized Saint Michael's Church, New Haven, CT. on 8 June 1894, known as ANNA
- b) MARIA ROSA MADDALENA: born 26 October 1895, baptized Saint Michael's Church, 17 November 1895, known as Rose.
- c) GIUSEPPE (JOSEPH) MADDALENA: born 15 March 1897, baptized 30 March 1897, Saint Michael's Church, died at 11 months old.
- d) DOMINIC J. MADDALENA: born 4 August 1898, New Haven, Connecticut; baptized 4 September 1898, Saint Michael's Church; adopted surname spelling of MADDELENA; he worked for Emanulson's Bakery, first as a breadwrapper (1921-'22) and as a salesman (1929-'34), he probably lived with his father until marrying. He married SARAH DAVIDOW, 15 August 1928 in New Haven; they lived at 21 Garden from 1929 to '33, 453 Orchard in 1934 and '35 and at 12 Garden Street from 1936 to '38 at least. By 1935 he was a chauffeur working at 1455 State and he continued there until 1938 at least. They also lived at 723 Washington Avenue, West Haven, Connecticut. This was SARAH's second marriage, her first husband being JACK NAHMIAS. They had JACK M. NAHMIAS in Rochester, New York in 1928. Their son died 23 September 2019 in Inverness, Florida where he was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery. DOMINIC died 26 September 1973, interred at All Saints Cemetery, North Haven, Connecticut.
 - i) CHARLES MARCEL MADDELENA: born 15 June 1929 in New Haven, Connecticut; married first ELAINE BUTRICO on 17 June 1950. ELAINE died 1 March 1965.
 - (1) CAROL ANN MADDELENA: born 26 September 1952; married CALDWELL, lives in Georgia.
 - (2) ROBERT MADDELENA: born 2 October 1956; lives in Saint Augustine, Florida. CHARLES married second LUCILLE ANN SAVINO on 27 November 1965 in West Haven, Connecticut.
 - (3) MICHAEL CECIL MADDELENA: born 27 August 1966, married 29 April 1994 to ALICIA ANN SINGER in Beacon Falls, Connecticut; lives in Oxford, Connecticut, divorced May 2000. MICHAEL married YASMIN.
 - (a) ISABELLA LUCIA MADDELENA: born 23 October 2015.
- e) VINCENZO (aka JAMES) MADDALENA: born 28 August 1901, baptized 10 Nov. 1901 at

Saint Michael's Church, New Haven; married ELEANOR SANTOMASSIMO (born 13 June 1905, died 20 January 1988 in New Haven); VINCENZO died 13 May 1966 in New York City.

- i. JAMES MADDALENA: (born 15 April 1934, died January 1979) possibly moved to New York City. Was married or had children as Social Security death benefits were claimed by a survivor in New Haven.

- 1. BARBARA MADDALENA: born in New Haven, married GEORGE COSTANZO. Their children are:
 - a. GEORGE COSTANZO: born 9 Aug. 1956, is a doctor of chiropractic in Southington, CT.
 - b. Lisa Costanzo
 - c. Mark Costanzo
- 2. ELEANOR MADDALENA

f) (Son) born prematurely a few days before MARIA died on 15 March 1903.

9) CONCETTA MADDALENA (1): apparently died young.

10) CONCETTA MADDALENA (2): was baptized 26 February 1864, married BERNARDO DEGNI on 27 November 1902 in Piedimonte d'Alife. This marriage is noted on the birth certificate of CONCETTA (1). In the WW I military records of ALBERT MATELENA, BERNARDO, listed as *UNCLE FRANK*, is listed as his nearest relative. CONCETTA and BERNARDO moved to Alife where CONCETTA was killed 5 October 1943 as the United States military advanced from the south, driving the German forces back. The B-25's of the Tactical Bombing Force had been targeting Alife for some time, culminating in a devastating raid on 12 October. The 135th Infantry Regiment entered the bomb-blasted town on 20 October and secured the position shortly thereafter. The 45th Infantry Regiment took Piedimonte d'Alife on the same day.

11) FELICE MADDALENA: was married on 21 February 1891 to MARIA D'ANCONA, being the 8th marriage of that year.

Husband's Name: **PIETRO MADDALENA**
 Born: 1765/71 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Married: 15 July 1797 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Died: 2 May 1836 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
 Father: NICOLA MADDALENA (1718 to 5 December 1786)
 Mother: GELTRUDE PIZZELLA (pre-deceased husband)

Wife's Name: **CATERINA PEPE**
 Born: 1773/7 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Died: 29 September 1847 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
 Father: NICOLA PEPE
 Mother: VIOLANTE CONTENTA

Issue:	Born:	Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno di Napoli
1) NICOLA MADDALENA	1801	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) RAFAELE VINCENZO SIMONE MADDALENA	28 October 1814	Piedimonte d'Alife
		<u>Regno delle due Sicilie</u>
3) GIOVANNI MADDALENA	6 April 1817	Piedimonte d'Alife

They were married at the *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore* by *IL MOLTO REVERENDO* D. PIETRO GAGLIARDI in the presence of FORTUNATO DI LEONE and NOVIZIO MARCELLINO ORLANDO.

PIETRO'S occupation in 1814 involved wool but the exact job is not known. In 1817 he is a miller. They were members of *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore*, where GIOVANNI was baptized. Their son RAFAELE died 21 February 1816. In this record is the only location where CATERINA'S surname is spelled *PAPEA*. At the time of his death, PIETRO was a candle maker living on *Piasetta Strada*, literally *the street to the square*.

CATERINA, at the time of her son GIOVANNI'S marriage in 1845, is listed as a wool spinner. She later lived on *Strada San Nicola* and continued to be a spinner where she died in 1847.

Issue:

1) NICOLA MADDALENA: married MARIA VINCENZA CARUSO, b.1799, daughter of LUIGI and ROSA LENNA CARUSO, on 5 February 1825 at *Santa Maria Maggiore* in Piedimonte d'Alife. He was a miller and then a blacksmith. They lived on *Strada Palazzo*. MARIA VINCENZA died 18 February 1869 at 9 pm in a house on *Strada Santa Maria*. By the summer NICOLA was planning to get married again. After completing all the necessary paperwork, filing their *Intention to Marry*, posting notices for two months at least, filing certifications for said postings, *et cetera*, he remarried before the year was out. NICOLA, now 68, married the much younger MARIA ANNA FERREZZA, 42, on 30 December 1869. She was the daughter of GIUSEPPE SANTORI FERREZZA and LUCIA D'AMBROSA.¹ NICOLA lived to be 86 years old,

living at *4 via Santa Maria* with his wife MARIA ANNA FERREZZA. He died at 11:10 pm on 7 September 1887. The informants, ANGELO PALUMBO and PASQUALE GAGLIONE, did not know the name of his mother but correctly identified his father as PIETRO MADDALENA. They name NICOLA's occupation as blacksmith, one which they also attribute to his father but this is the only time this has been found, and they got his age right.²

A) SALVATORE MADDALENA: b. 1826; married RAFAELLA VALENTE; blacksmith. SALVADORE, the 45-year-old son of NICOLA and VINCENZA CARUSO, and husband of RAFAELLA VALENTE, died *at the house on Piasetta* on 18 July 1871.³

i) PIETRO MADDALENA: b c1848; married MARIA GIUSEPPA DI BAIO; lived at *17 San Giovanni*. He died 6 February 1878.⁴

ii) TIBERIO MADDALENA: b c1855; never married; lived on *Strada Giovanni* when he died 30 March 1873 at 18. He was a *calzolaio*, shoe maker, son of *the late* SALVATERIO and RAFFAELE VALENTE.⁵

B) GIUSEPPE MADDALENA: b. Dec. 1834, d. 24 April 1837

C) TIBERIO MADDALENA: b. 1826, d. 26 May 1838.

D) GIASCINA MADDALENA: b.1830, d. 25 August 1839.⁶

E) ERCOLE MADDALENA: born c1832. Married LUISA ROSSIANO. Blacksmith, lived at *13 via Santa Maria*. Died at 45 on 24 January 1877, son of NICOLA MADDALENA, blacksmith, and the deceased VINCENZA CARUSO.⁷ *ERCOLE* translates to *HERCULES*!

¹ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1869, No. 34 and Matrimonio, 1869, No.81; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Images 1032, 1045 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

² Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1878, No. 137; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 2034 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

³ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1871, No. 92; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Image 1660 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

⁴ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1878, No. 27; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 429 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁵ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1873, No. 62; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Images 2285, 2286 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122..

⁶ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, Tiberio Maddalena, 1838, No. 63, p. 144; Giascina Maddalena, 1839, No. 80, p. 244.

⁷ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1877, No.181; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 232 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

NICOLA MADDALENA, son of PIETRO and CATERINA PEPE, a 68-year-old blacksmith and widow of *VINCENZA?* CARUSO, married ANNA MARIA FERRAZZA, a 41-year-old spinner and daughter of GIUSEPPE and LUIS D'AMBROSA, on 30 December 1869.⁸

2) RAFAELE VINCENZO SIMONE MADDALENA: Died 21 February 1816.

3) **GIOVANNI MADDALENA**: married **MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA** (see separate file)

Notes:

PIETRO'S father, NICOLA MADDALENA was buried in the *Chiesa di San Rocco*. During the 19th century it is believed that he was reinterred in the new Communal Cemetery outside the city limits but records verifying this have not been found. *San Rocco* was damaged during the 2013 earthquake and extensive repairs were done but no mention is found of any internments under the church being found.

⁸ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Matrimonio, 1869, No. 81; familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

Husband: **GAETANO SACCO**
 Born: 20 May 1831 Aversa, Caserta, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
 Married: 12 December 1852 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
 Died: 1 April 1887 San Lorenzo, Napoli, Provincia di Napoli, Regna d'Italia
 Father: FILIPPO GIROLAMO SACCO (20 April 1809 -)
 Mother: MARIA ROSALIA D'ANGELO (4 June 1794 - 26 June 1849)

Wife: **MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO**
 Born: 10 March 1829 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
 Died: 1885/86
 Father: PASQUALE DI MUCCIO (7 January 1803 – 13 November 1877)
 Mother: ANTONIA IACUZIO (29 December 1805 – 30 July 1874)

Issue:	When:	Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno delle due Sicilie
1) VINCENZO SACCO	6 October 1853	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) ROSARIA ADELINA SACCO	2 March 1856	Piedimonte d'Alife
3) MARIA ANTONIA VINCENZA SACCO	13 June 1858	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) MARIA CONCETTA SACCO	9 February 1861	Piedimonte d'Alife
<u>Regno d'Italia</u>		
5) MARCELLINA GIUSEPPE SACCO	25 May 1867	Piedimonte d'Alife
6) VINCENZO SACCO	11 August 1868	Piedimonte d'Alife
7) GIUSEPPINA <i>PEPINA</i> SACCO	December 1869	<i>Piedimonte d'Alife</i>

On their marriage license, dated 11 December 1852, GAETANO is listed as a coachman and MARIA is a peasant woman. It states that notification was posted in Aversa on 18 July. It also states that GAETANO'S mother was deceased. They were married at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* and witnesses were ANTONIO MARINO and LUIGI CURCIO.

They first lived on *Strada San Filippo*. This is where VINCENZO was born; his birth certificate gives the year as 1868; annotated to the certificate is a hand-written correction to the year changing it to 1863 from the archivist; which is correct is not certain. MARIA is listed as a *spinner* in 1853. By 1856 they had moved to *Strada Capovallata* remaining there until 1867 at least when MARCELLINA was born. GAETANO'S occupation is *cocchiere* or coachman.

All the children were baptized at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*. MARCELLINA and PEPINA were identified in a letter from JOHN MATELENA to the author. They were said to live in New York City by 1910 and research has proved him right, down to knowing the street addresses! MARCELLINA'S birth certificate was found in 2018.¹

By the naming of the children, it appears that their first son, named VINCENZO, died

¹ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, 1866, Births No. 124. Digital copy at familysearch.org; their citation is: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > image 102 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

before 1863 when a second son was named VINCENZO. MARIA ANTONIA VINCENZA may have also died young however it was common to have the same first name of MARIA in the family, to commemorate the Virgin Mary, and the second, or middle, name was the name actually used in daily life.

MARIA was alive when her daughter MARIA married in 1880 but died before her husband and GAETANO is known to have died in 1887. Her name does not appear in the available death registers from 1880 to 1887 and, since the 1885 and 1886 registers are not available and assuming she died in Piedimonte d'Alife, her death probably occurred in one of those two years. There is a chance she did not die in Piedimonte d'Alife, just as her husband did not die there in 1887.

As for GAETANO, his death record in Piedimonte d'Alife is found as the first one for the year 1888. He actually died exactly nine months earlier on 1 April 1887. Recorded on the 1st of January were the events that occurred between April and January. First one must know that residents who died outside of the jurisdiction of the Comune di Piedimonte d'Alife were only known to have died officially if there was an official notification from the jurisdiction where the death occurred. Second, all such notifications of death were held back from being recorded until the first day of the year following receipt of such a notification. Knowing these to be true, what the record states makes sense. At 6 am on 1 April 1887, GAETANO SACCO died at the *Ospedale di Incurabili* in the San Lorenzo section of Naples. The director of the hospital, GAETANO CRAPILLE, reported his death to authorities at 10 am whence it was recorded by GIOVANNI D'ANDREA as death number 361 of the San Lorenzo section. Being a hospital patient, they had all his pertinent information: a native of Aversa, living in Piedimonte d'Alife, the son of the FILIPPO SACCO and ROSALIA DE ANGELO, both deceased, and the widower of MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO. Then GIOVANNI D'ANDREA made an extract of the register entry and forwarded it to the Mayor of Naples for confirmation as an exact copy, which was done, and it was sent to City Hall, Piedimonte d'Alife on 17 May. ALFONSO BILLI, the secretary at city hall in Piedimonte d'Alife, received the packet on 14 June 1887 from the Mayor of Naples which contained a true copy of the death register entry.² As noted above, the notice was held aside and recorded on the



1st day of January in 1888. The *Ospedale di Incurabili* was founded in 1521 when *incurable* essentially meant *syphilis*. By the 19th century, this huge medical complex was one of the most advanced in Europe with doctors traveling from all over to learn the latest advances in medicine and pharmacology as well as the institutions own research on diagnostic techniques. Its patient base had expanded greatly beyond the early days when the dreaded *French Disease* plagued the kingdom. GAETANO's hospital records may still be available as the hospital continues to operate to this day.

² Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, Morti, parte 2, 1887, No. 1. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894> image 2052 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

Issue:

- 1) VINCENZO SACCO: died before 1863.
- 2) ROSARIA ADELINA SACCO: ADELINA was the name she went by after leaving Piedimonte d'Alife. ROSARIO SACCO married PIETRO DE MAIO on 15 June 1874 at 2 pm in the *Casa Comunale* (an office or bureau in the city government) in the Town Hall in Piedimonte d'Alife. The groom was a 23-year-old barber from the *quartiere Porto* in Naples, son of *the late* ANTONIO, a military veteran, and *the living* ROSA PITERA, residing in Piedimonte. The bride was 18 and a seamstress, the daughter of GAETANO, a coachman, and MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO.³ They moved to Manhattan where ROSARIO became ADELINA in the early 1880's – the date of arrival has not been found. In 1900 they were living at 417 East 144th Street with ADELINA's brother GIUSEPPE and sister PEPINA and PIETRO was a shoemaker. They moved to the building next door, 419 East 114th Street, where they raised their family. PIETRO died between 1915 and 1920. At some point after 1925, ADELINA moved the Bronx to live with her son ANTHONY at 943 East 219th Street. They had 6 known children:⁴
 - a) ROSINA DE MAIO: born 1897. Was a ladies tailor; she does not appear with the family after 1915.
 - b) ANTONIO DE MAIO: born 1899. Tailor for girls before 1920; for men by 1930. Bought home at 943 East 219th Street in the Bronx where his widowed mother and siblings CHARLES and MAGGIE lived. Wife named ANNA.
 - i) WALTER DE MAIO: born September 1929.
 - c) VINCENZO DE MAIO: born 1901. Disappears between 1905 and 1920, resurfacing as JAMES, a tailor. He switched careers by 1925 when he was a printer; bought a house near his brother ANTHONY at 927 East 219th Street. His wife's name was MARY.
 - d) VINCENZA DE MAIO: born 1902. Only found with family one time in 1915.
 - e) MARGHERITA DE MAIO: born 1904. MAGGIE was a clothing finisher, factory worker and, in 1930, she was working as a bookbinder for a publisher. She lived with her brother ANTHONY in 1930.
 - f) CHARLES DE MAIO: born 1905. Was working in a print shop as a printer in 1925, maybe with his brother JAMES. Moved to the Bronx when his brother ANTHONY bought a house at 927 East 219th Street.
- 3) MARIA ANTONIA VINCENZA SACCO: no information found.
- 4) MARIA CONCETTA SACCO: married GIUSEPPE MADDALENA on 15 July 1880 in Piedimonte d'Alife. (continued in separate file)
- 5) MARCELLINA GIUSEPPE SACCO: was thought to have moved to New York City but it turned

³ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, Matrimonio , 1874, No. 124. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁴ For references, see Joseph Matelena and Mary Concetta Sacco file. That biography has a more in-depth discussion of the 3 siblings while in New York City.

out that it was ROSARIO ADELINA who married PIETRO DE MAIO and moved to Manhattan.

- 6) VINCENZO SACCO: He died at 10:30 pm on the 28 January 1884 at home, *41 via Annunziata*. His age is given as 21; he's a farm laborer and the son of GAETANO SACCO, coachman and MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO, housewife.⁵
- 7) GIUSEPPINA *PEPINA* SACCO: moved to Manhattan in 1882-1883. Not much is known about early years. She shows up in 1900 at 417 East 114th Street living in the same building as her brother GIUSEPPE and sister ADELINA. She married NICOLA D'ALESSANDRO, born 16 June 1877, the son of CAMILLO D'ALESSANDRO and GIUSEPPA D'UVA, on 12 June 1898.⁶ He owned the building where they lived, 417 East 114th Street, in 1900. He was a tailor and had his own business by 1925. They moved to the neighboring building at 419 East 114th Street by 1905 and by 1920 he owned that building. JOSEPHINA claims to have been naturalized in 1900 at the South District Court while NICOLA became a citizen in 1903 at the *Bronx Court*. Moved, by 1925, to a single-family home at 264 East 205th Street in the Bronx. JOSEPHINA died on 21 October 1925 at home in the Bronx. Known as PEPINA her entire life, the informant guessed incorrectly that her name was *FILIPPINA* and that her mother was MARIA MUCCI though they did name her father correctly. She was buried in the *Gate of Heaven Cemetery* 3 days later.⁷ The record does not give a location for this cemetery; it may be the one in Hawthorne, Westchester County, New York about 20 miles north of the Bronx. In 1930, NICOLA was renting a house at 815 East 181st Street in the Bronx (just as the author's GREAT-UNCLE JOHN MATELENA stated). ADOLPH is living with him as is a 32-year-old niece from France, HENRIETTA MONTGUILBY. She arrived in 1920 and was living in Washington Heights where she was a designer; in 1930 she's a dressmaker working from home so she may have still been a designer. Between 1898 and 1910 PEPINA had 7 children but only 2 survived.⁸
 - a) CAMILIO D'ALESSANDRO: born 27 September 1899; died before 1905.
 - b) ALBERTO D'ALESSANDRO: born 1902. Was a college student in 1925.
 - c) ADOLFO MARIO CARLO D'ALESSANDRO: born 6 March 1907.⁹ Became an engraver. Died October 1976, Westchester, New York,

⁵ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, Morti , 1884, No. 18. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894> image 1722 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

⁶ "New York Marriages, 1686-1980," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F6H3YK>) 10 Feb 2018, Nicola D'Alessandro and Giuseppina Sacco, 12 Jun 1898; citing reference ; FHL microfilm 1,504,028

⁷ Extract from "New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:2WGGQ5>; 10 February 2018), Filippina D'Alessandro, 21 Oct 1925; citing Death, Bronx, New York, New York, United States, New York Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 2,168,662.

⁸ *vide note 3*.

⁹ "New York, New York City Births, 1846-1909," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:2WHJK7>) 11 February 2018, Adolfo Mario Carlo D'Alessandro, 06 Mar 1907; citing Manhattan, New York, New York, United States, reference cn 13936 New York Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 1,991,512.

COAT-OF-ARMS: Red with a gold lion

This is provided only for amusement and edification. There is no evidence whatsoever that our SACCO ancestors had any claim on any Coat-of-Arms, ever.

SACCO is the name of a Sicilian noble family:

Messina nobility in the 13th and 14th centuries – barony of Miri;

ALVARO SACCO – fief of Nimiri, sold to GILBERTO DE URSO 1443, which would have gone to his son GILBERTO SACCO;

ANTONIO SACCO is found in the list of *Mollico* in 1605.



“Il Galluppi la vuole originaria di Milano, nobile in Messina nei sec. XIII e XIV e posseditrice della baronia di Mirii. Un ALVARO SACCO, messinese, al dir del Barberi, possedette il feudo Nimiri, che donò nel 1443 a GILBERTO DE URSO, annullando la precedente donazione fatta al proprio figlio naturale GILBERTO SACCO; un messer ANTONIO è annotato nella mastra nobile del Mollica (lista XIX, anno 1605).”

Husband's Name: **FILIPPO GIROLAMO SACCO**

Born: 20 April 1809 Aversa, Provincia di Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
Married: 5 July 1831 Aversa, Provincia di Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle due Sicilie
Died: >1851
Father: CARMINE SACCO
Mother: MARIA GIUSEPPA CECALA

Wife's Name: **MARIA ROSALIA D'ANGELO**

Baptized: 4 June 1799 Aversa, Provincia di Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli*
Died: 26 June 1849 Porta di Posillipo, Provincia di Napoli, Regno delle due Sicilie
Father: FRANCESCO ANTONIO D'ANGELO
Mother: MARGARITA DELLA VOLPE

Issue: Born: Where: Regno delle due Sicilie

GAETANO SACCO	22 May 1831	Aversa, Terra di Lavoro
CARMINE PANTALEONE CESARE SACCO	27 July 1833	Aversa, Terra di Lavoro

*To be absolutely correct MARIA was born during the 6-month life of the *Parthenopean Republic*, the Neapolitan flavor of the French Republic. France and Italy were at war and with the invasion of the Kingdom by French forces, the royals fled to Palermo. A Republic was established under the watchful eyes, and soldiers, of the French, who were still reveling in their own Republic. However, unlike France, the Royal, or anti-Republican, Army enjoyed overwhelming support from the majority of citizens. By the 4th of June, most of the Kingdom was under Royal rule again with Naples and Pescara being the last hold-outs. Naples fell on 13 June despite 2 castles being held by Republicans and 1 by the French. Bombardments from these castles into the city were enough to keep KING FERDINANDO IV OF NAPLES aboard the British ship *Foudroyant* in the Gulf of Naples until the second week of August. When the *REGNO DELLA DUE SICILIE* was established in 1815, FERDINANDO IV OF NAPLES became FERDINANDO I OF THE TWO SICILIES.

FILIPPO was a soldier in the *Battalion of the Train of the Line* in the Royal Army before they married. The army was reformed when FERDINANDO II became king in 1830 and there was one train unit designated as such: the Train and Coast Artillery Corp Battalion; soldiers were armed with a 28" musket.¹ FILIPPO's Battalion was tasked with the supply side of everything. Most army corps includes a supply or train battalion that is in charge moving stuff. Need ammunition brought up? Contact the ammunition train. Need to move a large number of field tents and portable kitchens? That's handled by the baggage train. Sanitary trains moved field



¹ *Military of the Two Sicilies*, Royal House of Bourbon of Two Sicilies website: <https://www.realcasadiborbone.it/history-documents/military/army/> (pdf of page in History>Italy)

hospitals and ambulance corps to evacuate the wounded as needed. In FILIPPO's time, they handled everything but choo-choo-trains, which had yet to debut in the Kingdom. The 1830s was a relatively quiet decade – GIUSEPPE BONAPARTE had taken up residence in Bordentown with no plans to regain the throne of Naples; his brother-in-law GIOACCHINO NAPOLEONE MURAT was killed trying to do just that; and the sly tactics used by the House of Savoy to run roughshod over the realm was still a couple decades in the future.

Their marriage record states FILIPPO *lived in* Aversa but was a soldier *in Naples*, meaning he was stationed there. FILIPPO and MARIA's son GAETANO was born before they married, though they were probably betrothed to be married. MARIA was living on *Strada San Agostino* in Aversa and FILIPPO was *in Naples*. Their *Intent to Marry* was posted in Aversa on 12 July 1831. FILIPPO was required to obtain permission to marry from his battalion leader, the *Sergeant Deputy of the Train Battalion*, which he did in June 1831.² They were married at *Chiesa di San Audeno* with witnesses being GIUSEPPA DI VOSA and FRANCESCO PALUMBO. This was recorded on *Folio 436* of the Church's Register of Marriages. It is not known when FILIPPO's enlistment ended.

They were living on *Strada San Audeno* in Aversa by 1833 and this is where their son CARMINE was born on the 27th of July. This is the *Feast day of SAINT PANTALEON*, hence the inclusion of *PANTALEONE* in CARMINE's name. In case you are wondering, *yes*, this is where the word *pants*, the shortened form of *pantaloons*, originated. The *commedia dell'arte* character *PANTALONE* wore trousers and he was affectionately named after *SAN PANTALEONE*. PANTALEON was a physician to the Roman Emperor and was martyred in 305 CE; he is the *Patron Saint* of physicians and midwives, and, in Italy, lotteries. Paradoxically, his life is used by the faithful as an illustration of the doctrinal belief *religious faith always takes precedence over medical advice*. CARMINE was baptized on 30 July 1833 at *Chiesa di San Audeno*.

Within a few years they had moved into the Naples area. In 1849 they were living in *Porta di Posillipo* on the northern coast of the Gulf of Naples. This was a new town with ancient roots. Once the site of luxurious Roman villas, it had been mostly abandoned until the opening of the *Via Posillipo* in the 1820s. This road connects to *Mergellina Harbor* which is closer to the city of Naples. MARIA died in *Napoli* meaning the *Province* of Naples, not only the city proper. Her death certificate lists her husband as FILIPPO SACCO, father FRANCESCO D'ANGELO and mother *ROSA BRANDI*. Perhaps this was a stepmother. It states she is from Aversa and has 2 children.

Two years later, CARMINE was living in *Vicaria*, a section of Naples at that time, in the southern section near the Castel Capuano. In all likelihood, FILIPPO and GAETANO are also living there. CARMINE, the 17-year-old son of FILIPPO, died there on 9 April 1851.³ Given that FILIPPO was just 42 years old, it seems likely he remarried. No death certificate for FILIPPO has been found yet.

² Battaglione del Treno di Linea, No. 179, Naples, June 1831.

³ Italia, Napoli, Stato Civile (Archivio di Stato), 1809-1865, Registri di Morti, 1851, Vicaria, Napoli, Napoli, Campania, Italia, No. 438, Direzione; FamilySearch database, image 440.

Notes:

Military of the Two Sicilies (endnote 1)

The Reform of Ferdinand II (edited)

In all sectors, things radically changed with the accession of Ferdinand II to the throne in 1830. He implemented a general and radical reorganization of land forces and in the last years of his Kingdom these forces were as follows:

ROYAL GUARDS OF THE KING: 1 mounted and 1 Infantry company;

GUARD OF HONOUR: one squadron for each province of the Kingdom;

VETERANS REGIMENTS – ARTILLERY: 2 Regiments (King and Queen), 1 Company of Mounted Artillery, 1 Artificers Brigade, 1 Train and Coast Artillery Corp Battalion; (armed with a 28” musket)

The following bear the name Sacco and were in Aversa. It is extremely rare to find this surname in that town so they are recorded here just in case a link turns up. Filippo and Maria only had two children and both are accounted for above.

Vincenzo Sacco: lived in Aversa with his wife Paola *Zessilone*; they had a daughter Augusta born c1845. She married Pasquale Doria on 11 August 1869 (No. 99, Image 874 of 2998).

Filippo Sacco: lived in Aversa, wife named Raffaele Tortone. Filippo died before March 1879. They had 3 daughters:

Maria Carmela Addoloratto Sacco, born on 30 January 1864. Maria Carmela married Michele Russo when she was 19 on 19 May 1883. She died on 10 February 1886 in Averso. (Birth worksheet in Primary Sources>Unknown Persons>Italy>Sacco Filippo dau Maria Carmela Addolorata - Aversa Births 1864.pdf; Aversa, Matrimonio, 1883, No. 57; Film 1797530, Image 206; Aversa, Morti, 1886, No. 51; Film 007059212, Image 2681).

Francesca Sacco born in 1869; she married Giovanni Giardi on 10 June 1886 in Aversa. (Aversa, Matrimonio, 1886, No. 84; Film 007059212, Image 2581).

Stella Sacco born in 1873 in ?? *Trano* ??; she died 14 March 1879. Filippo is noted as deceased. (Aversa, Morti, 1879, No. 124; copy in Primary Sources>Unknown Persons>Italy>Sacco Filippo dau Stella – Aversa Deaths 1879.pdf).

Husband's Name: **CARMINE SACCO**

Born: 1771-81

Married:

Died:

Father: PASQUALE SACCO

Mother:

Wife's Name: **MARIA GIUSEPPA CECALA**

Born: 1788-91

Died:

Father: ANTONIO CECALA

Mother:

Issue:	Born/Bapt:	Where: Regno di Napoli
1. PASQUALE SACCO	1805	Aversa, Terra di Lavoro
2. FILIPPO JEROME SACCO	21 April 1809	Aversa, Terra di Lavoro
3. RAFFAELE ANTONIO GAETANO SACCO	8 November 1812	Aversa, Terra di Lavoro
<hr/> Regno dell Due Sicilie <hr/>		
4. PIETRO PAOLA MARIA SACCO	26 June 1818	Aversa, Caserta Province
5. MARIA FILIPPA VINCENZA SACCO	13 September 1821	Aversa, Caserta Province
6. FRANCESCO SACCO	1825	Aversa, Caserta Province



Chiesa di San Nicola, Aversa

CECALA is found in two records while, in the third, it could be either CECALA or *CECARA*. Both are found in Averso, though both are rare. More frequently appearing possibilities that were investigated and dismissed include CESARO and CECERE. The civil records from 1866 through 1887 revealed no names in regard to the names of their mothers.

CARMINE was a *servitore*, a domestic servant. They were affiliated with the *Chiesa di San Nicola* (left) during 1809. In 1812 they lived at No. 6 *Strada Santa Agostino*. By 1818 they had moved to *Strada San Girolamo* and then to nearby *Strada San Paolo* by 1821. They were affiliated with the *Chiesa di San Paolo* by 1821 (right).



ISSUE:

1. PASQUALE SACCO: At 25 he married CATERINA MEROLA, age 30, on 5 July 1830 in the *Porto* section of Napoli. The groom was the son of CARMINE SACCO and MARIA CECARA and the bride was the daughter of GIUSEPPE MEROLA and FELICIA DE ANGELIS.¹
2. **FILIPPO SACCO**: Baptized on 21 April at *Chiesa di San Nicola*. VERONICA DICHARA, midwife, was his godmother. He married **MARIA ROSALIA D'ANGELO** on 5 July 1831. (Continued in separate file)
3. RAFFAELE ANTONIO GAETANO SACCO:
4. PIETRO PAOLA MARIA SACCO:
5. MARIA FILIPPA VINCENZA SACCO: Baptized by the parish priest of *Chiesa di San Paolo* on 14 September 1821.
6. FRANCESCO SACCO: At 37 he married VENERANDA MARIA LONGO, age 46, on 1 September 1862 in the *Quartiere San Fernando* in Napoli. The groom was born in Aversa to CARMINE SACCO and MARIA GIUSEPPA CECARA while the bride was born in Gildone, Provincia di Molise to FRANCESCO LONGO and ANGELA ROSA PETTI.²

¹ Extract of "Italia, Napoli, Stato Civile (Archivio di Stato), 1809-1865," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QP3WW8GN>: 23 May 2018), Pasquale Sacco and Carolina Merola, 5 Jul 1830; citing Marriage, Porto, Napoli, Napoli, Campania, Italia, 109, Direzione Generale Archivi, Rome; FHL microfilm. Mother of the bride's given name extracted incorrectly as *Felice*.

² "Italia, Napoli, Stato Civile (Archivio di Stato), 1809-1865," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:KX952F>: 12 March 2018), Francesco Sacco and Veneranda Maria Longo, 01 Sep 1862; citing Marriage, Quartiere San Ferdinando, Napoli, Napoli, Italy, Direzione Generale Archivi, Rome; FHL microfilm 1,808,744.

Husband's Name: **FRANCESCO ANTONIO D'ANGELO**

Born: 1776/81 *Aversa*
Married: 9 August 1798 *Aversa, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli*
Died: 1833 – April 1867 *Aversa*
Father: NICOLA D'ANGELO (died before 9 Aug. 1798)
Mother:

Wife's Name: **MARGARITA DELLA VOLPE**

Born: 1781/82 *Aversa*
Died: 1833 – April 1867 *Aversa*
Father: ANTONIO DELLA VOLPE (died before 9 Aug. 1798)
Mother:

Issue: Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro
Regno di Napoli

- | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------|
| 1) MARIA ROSALIA ANTONIA D'ANGELO | 4 June 1799 (Ba) | Aversa |
| 2) RACHELA ANTONIA RAFFAELA D'ANGELO | 12 May 1812 (Ba) | Aversa |

Regno delle due Sicilie

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 3) MICHELE D'ANGELO | 17 Feb. 1821 (Bo) | Aversa |
| 4) VINCENZO D'ANGELO | 17 May 1823 (Bo) | Aversa |
| 5) ANTONIO D'ANGELO | c1833 | Aversa |



While MARGHERITA is the common spelling, MARGARITA is also used and is the form used in her documents found to date. Their *Promise to Marry* came from the *Chiesa di San Audeno* on 29 July 1798. Their *Banns to Marry* were posted on 4 and 5 August 1798 in the *San Domenico* section of Aversa, which, we may assume, was the neighborhood in which they lived. They were married by D. HYANCINTHUS ROSA, priest and *prefect* of the Parish of San Audeno, which may have included the *Chiesa di San Domenico*, on opposite sides of the village center. Witnesses were FRANCESCO BRUSCIARO, ANTONIO GOGA, and SALVATORE DONATO.

FRANCESCO made a living as a building painter. In 1812 they were living at 35 *Strada Trinita* (above left, 1996), now *Via Cesare Golia*, in the vicinity of the *Chiesa Trinita*, current seat of the Parish of San Audeno. By



1821 they were living on *Strada Seconda Trinita* (right, 1996), now *Via Vittorio Veneto*, and were apparently members of the *Chiesa di San Audeno*. In 1823 they were living on *Strada San Andrea*, a small, curving street near the old *Porta Incoreglia* (below left, 1996). By 1831 they appear to have moved back to *Strada Trinita*.

FRANCESCO was one of the witnesses at the birth of his grandson GAETANO SACCO in 1831.





In the 13 years between the birth of their daughters MARIA and RACHELA there were probably more children. Limitations of accessibility to the Church registers, which is the only records available prior to 1809, makes it difficult to establish. Both FRANCESCO and MARGARITA appear to have been alive when their daughter MARIA married in 1831. Their deaths were not reported in records from 1839 - 1841.

The parish is the *Parrocchia di San Audeno nella Trinita'* and *Chiesa Trinita* is the seat of the parish since 1934. In that year, the *Chiesa San Audeno* was destroyed in an earthquake but the ruins of the church, on left, and rectory, on right, remain as shown in the above picture.

Issue:

- 1) **MARIA D'ANGELO:** baptized at *Chiesa di San Audeno* (church ruins at right) with the midwife LUCIA DICARLO being the sole sponsor. On 20 May 1831, she gave birth to GAETANO, whose surname is presumed to be SACCO, though MARIA did not marry **FILIPPO GIROLAMO SACCO** until 5 July 1831, in Aversa. She was living on *Strada San Agostino* at this time.
- 2) **RACHELA ANTONIA RAFFAELA D'ANGELO:** To researchers, RACHELA D'ANGELO is a name the surfaces with too much frequency. There were at least three that shared this name: one was married to EMIDDIO MARINELLO, another to RAFFAELE ORLANDO, and a third to PASQUALE GIUSEPPE SCHIVARONE. These three couples were having children in the 1862 to 1864 period, and probably beyond. (See worksheets in the Primary Sources>Unknown Persons>Italy folder)
- 3) **MICHELE D'ANGELO:** baptized 18 February 1821 at *Chiesa di San Audeno*. Possibly married as a LUIGI D'ANGELO, son of MIHELE D'ANGELO, fathered a son named MIHELE by his wife MARIA DONATA ZAMPARELLA on 21 February 1870; MIHELE died 12 August 1872.¹
- 4) **VINCENZO D'ANGELO:** Was baptized 18 May 1823 at *Chiesa di San Audeno*. VINCENZO was a *maccaronaro*, a paste maker. At the age of 43 he decided to marry the much younger MARIANTONIA MONTESANO, a native of Aversa. She was the 20-year-old *cucitrice*, seamstress, daughter of the shoemaker FRANCESCO and ANNA MARIA MATTIELLO. They published their *Intention to Marry* on the door at City Hall in the first half of April 1867 with the first publication being returned to City Hall on 6 April and the second on 14 April. By this time both of VINCENZO'S parents had passed away. They were married at City Hall on Sunday, 14 April 1867.²



¹ Stato Civile di Aversa, 1870, Nascita, No. 102; Film 1797495, Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," images, FamilySearch, Aversa > Nati 1868 Matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1868-1871 Nati, matrimoni, pubblicazioni, cittadinanze 1872 > image 1244 of 2998; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere; Stato Civile di Aversa, 1872, Morti, No. 536; Film 1797496, Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," images, FamilySearch, Aversa > Morti 1872 Nati, matrimoni, cittadinanze, morti 1873-1876 Nati 1877 > image 177 of 3039; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

- 5) ANTONIO D'ANGELO: born c1833 in Aversa; carpenter in Aversa; married CATERINA NUNZIATA, daughter of RAFFAELE who was also dead by 1873. The birth record of their son EDUARDO names *GIOVANNI D'ANGELO* as the *father of ANTONIO* but this is corrected by a notation to the right of the birth record of their son EDUARDO states that the name of the father of ANTONIO is FRANCESCANTONIO and his mother is MARIA ANNUNZIATO and his wife is CATERINA NUNZIATO.
- a. EDUARDO DI ANGELO: born 4 March 1873, Aversa.³

NOBILITY

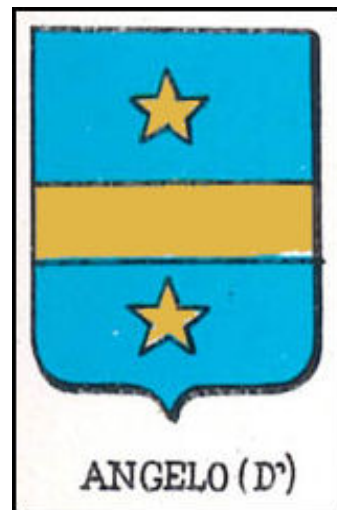
Giovanni-Antonio d'Angelo: baron of Rocchetta, castellan of castles at Mineo and Milazzo. Prominent in the reign of Queen Eleonora (1289-1341; married to Federico II).

Vito d'Angelo: acquired fief of Bertolino and Mezzocatuso, 29 April 1652, transferred to son:

Niccolò d'Angelo: invested 6 December 1658.

Francesco d'Angelo: eldest son of Niccolò, invested with Bertolino 30 August 1681.

Niccolò d'Angelo: son of Francesco, invested with Bertolini, 16 August 1776; purchased the marquisate of San Calogero, 5 October 1782, invested 17 October 1782. He was governor "della compagnia della Pace di Palermo" in 1791.



Oliva d'Angelo and Ciminnita: baroness of Terraforte, 31 August 1731.

Achille d'Angelo: fought in defense of Kingdom of Two Sicilies, Battle of Volturmo, 1860, in "11th Battalion Hunters" capitulated 2 November 1860.

Arms: blue, with a band of gold and two stars, one above and one below, Surmounted by marquisate's crown when used by that title.

² Stato Civile di Aversa, 1867, Registri di Pubblicazione, No. 199 and Registri di Matrimonio, No. 54. Digital database at FamilySearch: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," images, FamilySearch, Aversa > Nati, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1867 Matrimoni, pubblicazioni 1867 Nati 1868 > images 2187 and 2346; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

³ Stato Civile di Aversa, 1873, Nascita, No.129; Film 1797496 "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," images, FamilySearch, Aversa > Morti 1872 Nati, matrimoni, cittadinanze, morti 1873-1876 Nati 1877 > image 316 of 3039; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

Husband's Name: **TOMMASO D'AMBROSA**
 Born: 1762 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Married: 25 July 1812 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Died: 10 May 1834 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
 Father: GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA (1717 to 25 February 1787)
 Mother: FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI

Wife's Name: **MARIA FELICIA SACCO**
 Born: 1775 Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Died: 31 March 1867 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
 Father: GIOVANNI SACCO
 Mother: CRISTINA PASTO (1756 - 30 July 1826)

Issue:	Born:	Where: <i>Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno di Napoli</i>
1) DEAVINCENZA D'AMBROSA	9 June 1813	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) VITTORIA PETRONILLA D'AMBROSA	1 February 1815	Piedimonte d'Alife
		<u><i>Regno delle Due Sicilie</i></u>
3) MARIA VINCENZA D'AMBROSA	3 June 1817	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) RAFFAELE VINCENZO GREGORIO D'AMBROSA	11 March 1819	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) MARIA GIUSEPPA ROSA D'AMBROSA	24 December 1821	Piedimonte d'Alife
6) MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA	10 July 1824	Piedimonte d'Alife

The *Terrazzo Castello* was one of the historical sections of Piedimonte d'Alife. Other sections are the *antica*, the old historical core around the original castle and palace at the north end of town, the *vallata* or valley quarter which spreads out to the south and west and *Sepicciano*, originally a separate hamlet to the east. The castle was built to guard the mountain pass leading to the Matese Plateau and points north. The pass had been protected by a fortification at the north end of town but when the *Palazzo Ducale* was built in town, it required protection from a height so a castle was built on the escarpment that overlooked the Palazzo, the mountain pass and the town. In 1752 Castello became a separate administrative district. The name *Castello di Piedimonte* was adopted in 1801 for an indeterminate span of years before becoming *Castello d'Alife*. Though just a short distance separates the two *as the crow flies*, the only connection between the upper and lower towns was a long, wide stairway until it was paved in the 1970s. The town changed its name to *Castello Matese* in the 1970s.

Using the birth records of their children to calculate the year of birth for TOMMASO gives a 19-year-span but the age he gave when he married FELICIA is the one adopted herein. For FELICIA the span was 12 years; the year of birth used is based on her stated age at the birth of the first child as it was not stated on the marriage record. FELICIA's name is found only once as MARIA FELICIA SACCO, and that time is on the 1824 birth certificate of MARIA ROSA. It was commonplace to use *MARIA* as a type of honorific first name of more than one daughter; her second given name was the one she was known by and may be the only one to appear in later records. In this case *MARIA FELICIA* may be the mother of *MARIA ROSA* at her birth, but she was

FELICIA, the mother of *ROSA* after that.

TOMMASO was a farm laborer when they were married at the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*. Their notice of marriage was posted on 12 July and 19 July 1812. *FELICIA*'s place of birth is given as *Castello* referring to the upper part of town where the castle stood. Their marriage certificate names the wife as *FELICIA* and *FELICITA*, *little FELICIA*, for unknown reasons. They had the required civil ceremony and an optional religious one. The civil ceremony was performed by *NICOLA CENEI*, mayor of Piedimonte d'Alife. The church record names the officiant as *MOLTO REVERENDO ARCIPRETE* and witnesses as *D. FRANCESCO D'AMORE* and *ANGELO FIDANZA*. *TOMMASO*'s age is given as 50 years old at their marriage; *FELICIA*'s age is not stated.

They lived on *Strada Gradella* for a time. *FELICIA* is mentioned as a seamstress in 1815. In 1816 *TOMMASO* was a miller. By 1821 they had moved to *Via Nova* (New St.). They were still living there when *MARIA ROSA* was born 3 years later. All their children were baptized at the *Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore*. *FELICIA* was a spinner at the time of her daughter's marriage in 1845.

When *TOMMASO* died at home on *Strada Ponte dell'Osa*, he was working as a miller. *FELICIA* was still living on *Strada Ponte dell'Osa* when she died at home 33 years later. The death certificate states she was 82 years old, born in *Castello*, widow of *TOMMASO D'AMBROSA* and daughter of *GIOVANNI SACCO* and *CRISTINA DI PASTO*.¹

Issue:

- 1) **DEAVINCENZA D'AMBROSA**: married **GIOVANNI ZUCCHI** and worked as a *lavandaia* or clothes washer. They were living at 4 *via Monteo Piela* when she passed away at 5 pm on Tuesday, 28 October 1884. The informants, *ANGELO PALUMBO*, 58, and *PASQUALE GAGLIORE*, 33, were both coachmen. They added a decade to her age when they stated 72, but they got her parents right, she being the daughter of *TOMMASO*, workman, and *FELICIA SACCO*, seamstress, both deceased.²
- 6) **MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA**: married **GIOVANNI MADDALENA** on 25 May 1845. (Continued in separate file)

¹ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Register of Deaths 1867, No. 55, familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

² Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1884, No. 175 ; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1764 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

Husband: **GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA**
 Born: 1717 Regno di Napoli
 Married: Regno di Napoli
 Died: 25 February 1787 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli

Wife (1): *VINCENZA TARTAGLIA*

Wife (2): **FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI**

Born:

Died:

Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro
 Regno di Napoli

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) TOMMASO D'AMBROSA	1743-62	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) BIAGIO D'AMBROSA	1769	Piedimonte d'Alife

In all probability they all were from Piedimonte d'Alife or another small town in the area. GIUSEPPE's marriage to FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI was his second marriage. The name of his first wife is not known for certain. When his son TOMMASO married, his license dated 22 July 1812 names his *parents* as GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA, widower of VINCENZA TARTAGLIA. It does not state that VINCENZA was his mother, only that the wife of his father was dead. Taking that position leaves us with the absence of his mother's name on the marriage license. It also indicates GIUSEPPE was alive in 1812. An alternate interpretation is that VINCENZA TARTAGLIA was his mother but this is contradicted by TOMMASO'S death certificate which names GIUSEPPE as his father and FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI *as his mother*.

The 1787 death certificate for GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA, widower of FRANCESCA ZECCHINELI is in the marriage record file of MARIA ROSA D'AMBROSA, daughter of TOMMASO D'AMBROSA. It calls into question the marriage license of son TOMMASO which establishes that his father GIUSEPPE was alive in 1812. The death certificate's presence establishes the fact that they are related but not that FRANCESCA ZECCHINELLI is the mother of TOMMASO. It does establish as fact that TOMMASO's father, GIUSEPPE, was dead and that his wife FRANCESCA died before he did. If a son or daughter of GIUSEPPE and FRANCESCA was supplying this information it does make some sense that they could possibly supply the name of their mother when asked who GIUSEPPE was married to rather than the name of a second wife, especially if this second wife had already died.

There is a death certificate for a ROSA D'AMBROSA, 60 years, died 25 Nov. 1822, listing GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA and FRANCESCA ZICCHINELLA, both deceased, as her parents. At the time of her death, she was a widow but her spouse's surname is hard to read; his given name was GIANCOMO. Her calculated year of birth is 1762 which makes her a contemporary of GIUSEPPE's children.

That's two records in support of FRANCESCA ZECCHINELLI being the mother and a third record that creates the difficulty in explaining how GIUSEPPE died in 1787 and was alive in 1812.

Probably related but, as yet, what that relationship is has not been figured out. On 8 May 1812, VINCENZA TARTAGLIA, 64 years, daughter of GIOVANNI TARTAGLIA and ANTONIA GUIDONE, wife of TOMMASO? D'AMBROSA, died at their house on *Strada Via Nuova*. She was a *filatrice di lana*, a wool spinner.¹ Her year of calculated year of birth is 1748 which makes her a contemporary of TOMMASO D'AMBROSA, son of GIUSEPPE D'AMBROSA.

ISSUE:

- 1) **TOMMASO D'AMBROSA**: may have married a VINCENZA TARTAGLIA, who died on 8 May 1812, as mentioned above, not to be confused with the VINCENZA TARTAGLIA who was TOMMASO's stepmother. He did marry **FELICIA SACCO**. (Continued in separate file)
- 2) **BIAGIO D'AMBROSA**: married MARTA ZUCCHI, daughter of MARCELLINO ZUCCHI. BIAGIO was a *scandalana* which is a wool stretcher. He used a board with nails in it and ran the boles of wool across them to separate the fibers. They had a son named FILIPPO in 1809.

¹ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1812, No. 63, LDS Film 1037700, item 1, p. 101.

Husband's Name: **NICOLA PEPE**

Born: 1746-7

Married:

Died: 8 April 1813 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Kingdom of Naples

Buried:

Father: Pasquale Pepe

Mother: Cristina Civitillo

Wife's Name: **VIOLANTE CONTENTA**

Born:

Died: 1820-41

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Issue:	Born:	Where:
Francesco	1760	Piedimonte d'Alife
*Caterina	1773-7	Piedimonte d'Alife
Domenico	1790-3	Piedimonte d'Alife

In all probability they lived in Piedimonte d'Alife their entire lives. No record obtained thus far has listed a birthplace. Nicola was a blacksmith and was living on Strada San Giovanni at the time of his death. No death record has been found for Violante.

Issue:

Francesco married Maria FIDARZO. He was also a blacksmith. He died at his house on Strada Il Garta on 4 January 1841, he was 80 years old.

Catarina married Pietro MADDALENA on 15 July 1797. (continued in separate file)

Domenico obtained a license to marry Sarafina D'AMBROSA on 12 May 1818. He was 25 years old and a miller. She was 19, peasant woman, daughter of Coscanino and Angiola Rosa RICCIO. Domenico died 18 December 1820 at 30 years, blacksmith, husband of Elisabetta D'AMBROSA. At this time his father was listed as deceased and a blacksmith and his mother was 70 years and still living in Piedimonte d'Alife. There may have been a daughter born, Maria Carolina PEPE, born 16 June 1819 to Domenico PEPE, 29, miller and Tommaza D'AMBROSA, 27, wife.

Husband: **PASQUALE DI MUCCIO**
 Born: 7 January 1803 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno di Napoli*
 Married: 5 January 1829 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno delle due Sicilie*
 Died: 13 November 1877 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno d'Italia*
 Father: VINCENZO DI MUCCIO
 Mother: VICTORIA DI FUSCO

Wife: **ANTONIA IACUZIO**
 Born: 29 December 1805 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno di Napoli*
 Died: 30 July 1874 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno d'Italia*
 Father: GAETANO IACUZIO
 Mother: VINCENZA PALUMBO

Issue:	When:	Where: <i>Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno delle due Sicilie</i>
1) MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO	10 March 1829	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) VINCENZO DI MUCCIO	11 July 1831	Piedimonte d'Alife
3) MARIA ANTONIA DI MUCCIO	18 October 1837	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) GIOVANNI BATTISTA DI MUCCIO	24 June 1840	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO	23 December 1842	Piedimonte d'Alife
6) SALVATORRE DI MUCCIO	6 July 1846	Piedimonte d'Alife
7) FILOMENA DI MUCCIO	27 September 1849	Piedimonte d'Alife

Both families were affiliated with the *Chiesa di Santissima Annunziata de la Vallata*. PASQUALE was baptized there on 8 January 1803, his godmother being MARIA BRANDO. ANTONIA was baptized there on 30 December 1805, her godmother being SERAFIA DI FUSCO.

Notification of their *Intent to Marry* was posted on 14 December 1828. Their license, dated 3 January 1829, states that PASQUALE was a miller, as was his father. ANTONIA's father is also listed as a miller. They were married at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* in the presence of LUIGI BOGGIA and FILIPPO MANTANARO. This was recorded in Book 3 of Marriages.

ANTONIA was expecting her daughter MARIA GIUSEPPA at the time of their wedding. They were living on *Strada Vicinato* where they stayed until 1846 at least. By 1848, 5 of their 7 children had died: VINCENZO on 28 March 1832, just under 1 year old; MARIA ANTONIA on 11 July 1839 at 21 months; GIOVANNI BATISTA on 15 December 1840 at 6 months old; GIUSEPPE on 17 March 1844 at 15 months, and SALVATORE on 17 January 1848 at 17 months. With the death of this last son, the name DI MUCCIO, as descended through PASQUALE, faded away, unless another, as yet unidentified, son was born and survived, a distinct possibility given the oft times lengthy periods between births, though no such birth appears in the records of Piedimonte. Sometime in the latter half of 1846 or in 1847 they moved to *Strado Capovallata*. They may have lived on *Strada San Filippo* for a short time in 1849 when FILOMENA was born, but they were back on *Strado Capovallata* in 1851. All their children were baptized at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*.

ANTONIA IACUZIO, wife of *PASCALE* DI MUCCIO and daughter of the late GAETANO & the late VINCENZA died at 3 am on the 30th of July 1874 where she lived on *Strada Capovallata*. Her

age is given as 70 with *bracciale* as her profession. *Bracciale* and *bracchiante* both translate as manual laborer (*brach* = upper arm) but their particularly meaning is that of farm laborer where one works on a farm for the owner. The informants were GIROLAMO ORSINI, 49, and MARCELLINO DI FRANCESCO, 38, both civil servants (*servanti entrambi*).¹ PASQUALE DI MUCCIO died on 13 November 1877 at *No. 5 via Renunciata* and the grave diggers FABIO FERRAZA, 71, and ANGELO PALUMBO, 51, removed his body from the premises at 4 pm. The informants were GIROLAMO ORSINI, 56, civil servant, and GIUSEPPE BARONE, 37, municipal guard (policeman). They state that PASQUALE was 79 (born 1798) and was employed as a *bracchiale* or farm laborer; he was the *widower* of ANTONIA IACUZIO and the son of *the late* VINCENZO DI MUCCIO, workman, and *the late* VITTORIA DI FUSCO who was also designated a *bracchiale*.²

Issue:

- 1) **MARIA GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO**: married **GAETANO SACCO** on 12 December 1852. (see separate file)
- 2) **VINCENZO DI MUCCIO**: died at under a year old on 28 March 1832.
- 3) **MARIA ANTONIA DI MUCCIO**: died on 11 July 1839 at 21 months.
- 4) **GIOVANNI BATTISTA DI MUCCIO**: died at 6-months-old on 15 December 1840.
- 5) **GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO**: died on 17 March 1844 at 15 months old.
- 6) **SALVATORRE DI MUCCIO**: died on 17 January 1848 at 17 months old.
- 7) **FILOMENA DI MUCCIO**: 55-year-old **FILOMENA** married **NICOLA GUGLIETTI** on 21 May 1904 according to the notation on her birth record.

¹ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1874, No. 121. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

² Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1877, No. 186. Familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894> image 277 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

Husband:

VINCENZO DI MUCCIO

Born: c1784 Regno di Napoli
Married: 10 September 1799 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli*
Died: <1847 or 16 May 1868 Regno delle Due Sicilie or Regno d'Italia
Father: GIUSEPPANTONIO DI MUCCIO
Mother: ANNA MARIA PATERNO

Wife:

VITTORIA DiFUSCO

Bapt: 2 November 1777 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
Died: 6 January 1847 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
Father: PASQUALE DiFUSCO
Mother: MARTA ZUCCHI

		Where: <i>Provincia di Terra di Lavoro</i>	
Issue:		Born:	<i>Regno di Napoli</i>
<hr/>			
1) PASQUALE DI MUCCIO		7 January 1803	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) MICHELE DI MUCCIO	(baptized)	27 February 1807	Piedimonte d'Alife
3) FILIPPO GIACOMO DI MUCCIO		19 February 1809	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) CLEMENTE GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO		24 April 1812	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) FRANCESCO FILIPPO BARTOLOMEO DI MUCCIO		24 August 1813	Piedimonte d'Alife
6) NICOLETTA MARTA MARIA DI MUCCIO		15 March 1815(bapt)	Piedimonte d'Alife
7) <i>MARIA ANNA DI MUCCIO</i>		<i>15 August 1815</i>	<i>Piedimonte d'Alife?</i>
<hr/>			
<i>Regno delle Due Sicilie</i>			
<hr/>			
8) MARIA DOMENICA ANTONIA DI MUCCIO		13 June 1820	Piedimonte d'Alife
9) GIOVANNI VINCENZO PIETRO DI MUCCIO		23 July 1823	Piedimonte d'Alife

*Kingdom clarification: First, the Italian Peninsula was dominated by the southern Kingdom; it was such a force for centuries that when someone heard or read *Il Regno*, everyone automatically knew it meant *il Regno di Napoli*. Paradoxically, though everyone knew *Il Regno*, that kingdom never existed. AFTER 1815 Southern Italy and Sicily were united in one kingdom: *Regno delle Due Sicilie* (*Sicilie* is plural, *Sicilia* is singular; Kingdom of the Two Sicilies). So now you're wondering, what is the second Sicily? BEFORE 1815 the two *Sicilie* were separate kingdoms called *il Regno di Napoli* (Kingdom of Naples) and *il Regno di Sicilia* (Kingdom of Sicily). BUT, those were NOT their official names and, in genealogy, knowing the official name of a place is important for locating records of that place. What was called *il Regno di Sicilia* was officially *il Regno di Trinacria* (Kingdom of Trinacria). That left the name *Regno di Sicilia* as the official name of *il Regno di Napoli*. Simple enough, if not confusing – the Kingdom of Sicily and the island of Sicily are two separate entities that do not overlap – politically or geographically unless you are referring to the pre-1285 *Regno di Sicilia*, but there's a story for another time. All well and good, but it does not answer the question, *what is the second Sicily?* That's where the sometimes official, but mostly quasi-official, nomenclature comes into

play. The names were based on whether you were *on the near side* or *on the far side* of the *Punta del Faro* (Straits of Messina). *Regno di Sicilia citra Farum* is *on the near side*, that always being the mainland, while *Regno di Sicilia ultra Farum* is *on the far side*. So, when *il Regno di Sicilia citra Farum* and *il Regno di Sicilia ultra Farum* merged, an obvious choice was *Regno delle Due Sicilie*.

VINCENZO DI MUCCIO, the last clearly identified direct-line ancestor of the author, has his father named as GIUSEPPE ANTONIO DI MUCCIO in his 1799 marriage record and for the baptisms of his children born in 1803 and 1807. The birth certificate of the child born in 1803 has VINCENZO's father named as ANTONIO DI MUCCIO. In 1809 the birth certificate for his son FILIPPO GIANCOMO names his father as GIUSEPPE ANTONIO while the baptismal certificate from the following day names him only as GIUSEPPE. Taken together, these records clearly establish that GIUSEPPE ANTONIO DI MUCCIO, GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO and ANTONIO DI MUCCIO can refer to the same person, i.e. the father of VINCENZO. He is again referred to as the son of GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO in a baptismal record from 1815. There are only two instances where his mother is named – the 1803 and 1807 baptismal records – and they agree that her name was ANNA MARIA PATERNO.

VINCENZO's year of birth is hard to identify. Estimates from records give 1773 to 1794. He may have had his age reported older on the earlier records. The best guess is about 1775 which would make him 24 when he married. They were married by VINCENZO JACOBELLI at *Santa Annunciata Church of the Valley* (Also known as *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*) with witnesses being GIOVANNI MARCHETTI and DOMENICO DiMUTECE.

VINCENZO was a grainkeeper or miller though in early records he is listed as a *campagnolo* or country man. VITTORIA is a *contadina* or peasant woman in the records. They lived on *Strada Capovallata* until the spring of 1812 when they moved to *Strada Vicinato*. Their son CLEMENTE GIUSEPPE, in the record as GIUSEPPE, died 28 August 1812.

Not only is there confusion when determining the name of VINCENZO's father, there is also some when trying to identify VINCENZO as well. In reviewing records, both church and civil, it appears that, to this author, there were 2 couples with the same names. Some records are easy to place, those with the names of parents and grandparents. Others have only VINCENZO and VITTORIA's names and one must use their age or the date of event to try to determine which couple is indicated. NICOLETTA, born to VINCENZO, son of GIUSEPPE ANTONIO and VITTORIA, daughter of PASQUALE, is clearly their daughter, being baptized as an infant on 15 March 1815. MARIA ANNA, daughter of VINCENZO DI MUCCIO and VITTORIA DiFUSCO on 15 Aug. 1815 is not so easy to establish. To be sure, if MARIA ANNA is their daughter, then NICOLETTA had to be born several months before she was baptized, though she still could have been an infant at the baptism. This seems highly unlikely given the usual circumstance of baptism within 24 hours. Some confusion also arises around their daughter MARIA DOMENICA ANTONIA. Her birth record gives ages of VINCENZO and VITTORIA as 26 and 27 respectively, which is about 12 years shy of their ages in other records. She was baptized at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena di Vallarta*. Six years later, on 24 September 1826, MARIA DOMENICA DI MUCCIO, the 6 year old daughter of VINCENZO and VITTORIA FUSCO died. Then on 3 May 1847, MARIA DOMENICA ANTONIA DI MUCCIO, the 24 year old daughter of VINCENZO and VITTORIA DiFUSCO, living on *Strada San Filippo*, died. Perhaps they had a second MARIA DOMENICA or the one first mentioned is of a different couple.

VINCENZO may have died before his wife as she is listed as a 68 year old widow on her death certificate. She was living on *Strada San Filippo* when she died in 1847. Informants do not

always supply correct information and this may be the case in this instance. There was a VINCENZO DI MUCCIO living on *Strada San Filippo* in 1868 when he died on 16 May. He was 65, had a wife named GIOVANNA SCAPPATIERE (probably *SCAPPATICCIO*) and was the son of GIUSEPPE.¹ Given the wide range of years for his birth, 1773 to 1794, it is possible that VINCENZO, whose father was *GIUSEPPANTONIO*, remarried after VITTORIA died, and they continued to live in the same place. If he was 18 when his first child was born in 1803, he would have been 83 in 1868, a not unreasonable difference in age when the informant is guessing how old he was.

ISSUE:

- 1) **PASQUALE DI MUCCIO:** was baptized at *Santissima Annunziata Chiesa di la Vallarta*, commonly known as *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*. The sole sponsor was MARIA BRANDO. Married ANTONIA IACUZIO. (Continued in separate file)
- 2) **MICHELE DI MUCCIO:** was baptized at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* by RAFAEL MONTANARO, the sole sponsor being MAGDELENA CHRISTOFANO. The following may provide more information:

The 18-year-old CECILIA DI MUCCIO (b 1855), daughter of MICHELE DI MUCCIO and MARIA LUIGIA CIMOGLIA, married MATTEO DI BUCCIO, son of VINCENZO DI BUCCIO and CAROLINA SANTORO on 2 May 1873.

The 24-year-old ANGIOLA MARIA DI MUCCIO (b 1854), wife of GIOVANNI D'ONOFRIO and daughter of MICHELE DI MUCCIO and MARIA LUIGIA CIMOGLIA, died on 18 March 1873 at home on *Strada Fontana*.

The 28-year-old DOMENICO DI MUCCIO (b 1846), son of MICHELE DI MUCCIO, and his wife BRIGIDA SANTORO had a daughter CONCETTA MARCELLINA DI MUCCIO on 9 July 1874 and a son LIBERATO DI MUCCIO on 17 March 1883.²

- 3) **FILIPPO GIACOMO DI MUCCIO:** was baptized by GAETANO NAVARRO at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* on 20 February 1809. His sole sponsor was HIERONYMAS MASTRANGELO.
- 4) **CLEMENTE GIUSEPPE DiMUCCIO:**
- 5) **FRANCESCO FILIPPO BARTOLOMEO DI MUCCIO:** married ANNA NASTI.
 - A) **ROSA DI MUCCIO:** born 1830; married FRANCESCO BISCEGLIA who was a miller. ROSA died at 42-years-old on 25 August 1872 at their home on *Strada San Rocco*. The record of death

¹ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morte, 1868, No. 99. Digital version available at FamilySearch.org. "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > images 733, 1064 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

² Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Matrimonio, 1873, No. 26; Morti, 1873, No. 55. Digital version available at FamilySearch.org. "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > images 2224, 2283 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere) Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122 and Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1883, No. 69; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1396 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

states she was the daughter of FRANCESCO and ANNA NASTI.

B) VINCENZO DI MUCCIO: born 1836. Married MARIA DI CECCO, 32, in early 1868; they were living on *Strada San Domenico* in that year, they moved to *Strada San Rocco* the following year. He was a 34-year-old miller living on *Strada Capovallata* in 1870. His parents are identified as FRANCESCO and MARIA DI CECCO in the record of birth for his daughter ANNA. VINCENZO died at on 3 August 1870. His record of death identifies his parents as FRANCESCO and ANNA NASTI; MARIA DI CECCO is his wife.³

i) SALVATORE DI MUCCIO: born 15 November 1868; died 28 July 1869.

ii) MARIA ANNA DI MUCCIO: born 22 January 1870. She died at 11 years old on 25 April 1880.⁴ Her name is give as ANNA on her birth entry and MARIANNA on her death entry,

³ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1868, No. 203; Morte, 1869, No. 105; Nascita, 1870, No. 18; Morti, 1870, No. 142; Morti, 1872, No. 170. Digital version available at FamilySearch.org. "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 > images 733, 1064, 1110, 1303, 1968 of 2988; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801329, DGS 7063122.

⁴ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morte, 1880, No. 75. Digital version available at FamilySearch.org: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 856 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

Husband's Name: **GIUSEPPE ANTONIO DI MUCCIO**
 Born: 1767 – 1769 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Died: 10 January 1843 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Father: TOMMASO DI MUCCIO
 Mother: ANNA MARIA RAJANO

➤ Wife's (1) Name: **ANNA MARIA PATERNO**

Born: *c1770*
 Married.*: *<1794*
 Died: *1794 – 1814*
 Father:
 Mother:

Issue	Born	Where
1) VINCENZO DI MUCCIO	c1784	<i>Piedimonte d'Alife</i>

➤ Wife's (2) Name: **TEREZA TARTAGLIA**

Born: *c1776* *Piedimonte d'Alife*
 Married: 6 February 1810 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Died: 1 October 1814 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Father: GIANBATTISTA TARTAGLIA
 Mother: ANGELA MASTRANGELO

Issue	Born	Where
2) MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO	30 September 1814	Piedimonte d'Alife

➤ Wife's (3) Name: **ROSINA CAPROBELLI**

Born: *c1782* Piedimonte d'Alife
 Married: 4 April 1815 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Died: 5 July 1825 Piedimonte d'Alife
 Father: ANDREA CAPROBELLI (died <1815)
 Mother: TEREZA DEL SANTE (died <1815)

Issue	Born	Where
3) FRANCESCA DI MUCCIO	6 January 1816	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) DOMENICO FILIPPO LUIGI DI MUCCIO	13 January 1818	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) MICHELANGELO FRANCESCO DI MUCCIO	28 February 1820	<i>Piedimonte d'Alife</i>

➤ Wife's (4) Name: MARIA GIUSEPPA GENTILE

Born:	c1783	Prajano
Married:	6 October 1825	Piedimonte d'Alife
Died:	>1843	
Father:	CELESTINO GENTILE	
Mother:	GIOVANNA D'AZZO	

Issue	Born	Where
6) MARCELLINA DI MUCCIO	1829	Piedimonte d'Alife

*A slightly different format is used because of the number of marriages. The date of marriage is tied to the wife rather than the husband since there were 4 of the former and just 1 of the latter.

As for locations, the *Provincia di Terra di Lavoro* is correct and for events occurring before 1816, they were in the kingdom known as the *Regno di Napoli*. Its formal name was the *Regno di Sicilia* or Kingdom of Sicily (confusing, but elaborated on elsewhere, this kingdom did not encompass any of the island of Sicily; the island was named the *Regno di Trinacria*). In 1816 a new kingdom came into existence, the *Regno della Due Sicilies* or the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies – one being the Kingdom of Sicily and the other being the island of Sicily.

GIUSEPPE was born in the *Vallata* section, or valley quarter, of Piedimonte d'Alife. Little is known about GIUSEPPE and ANNA MARIA and, though there are many records about GIUSEPPE, they hinder rather than help in flushing out his life story. For example, one record included as part of the *Proscetti* for their son's marriage in 1799 states that GIUSEPPE was dead by that year. Records from the first quarter of the 19th century dispute this statement since he is still fathering children in 1820. It is possible the 1799 record was recently misread by the translator or it could be that the original document used to make the copy for the 1799 *Proscetti* file was transcribed wrong then and read correctly now. He may have been a huntsman, or a curator of the insane, or even a miller – the penmanship in the records is so idiosyncratic that it is difficult to rectify these disparate careers occurring in a single person.

Confirming the identification of the mother of his son are the records of that son, VINCENZO DI MUCCIO; they name his mother as ANNA MARIA PATERNO more than one time. Each of the documented marriages happened long *after* VINCENZO was born; when he was born GIUSEPPE ANTONIO was probably married to his *mother*, ANNA MARIA PATERNO. But, given an estimated age of 16, it is possible the parents were not married but there is no hint of illegitimacy in the records and since, surprisingly, illegitimacy was not socially condemned to the degree that it came to be, there is no reason to suppress such information. Such a status was concerned with the inheritance laws and without the clear establishment of paternity, a child could not inherit.

GIUSEPPANTONIO DI MUCCIO and TEREZA TARTAGLIA were originally thought to be VINCENZO'S parents, but the records indicate otherwise. TEREZA was a *filatrice di lana*, a wool spinner. When they got married is not known but when it ended is known and it is a sad story. TEREZA gave birth to their daughter MARIA GIUSEPPA on 30 September 1814. The following day TEREZA died undoubtedly of complications of the delivery. With no mother and quite possibly

lacking proper nourishment, MARIA lived less than two weeks, dying on 11 October. Now in his mid-40s, GIUSEPPE was not about to throw in the towel when it came to having a wife.

His next wife was ROSINA CAPROBELLI and they were married on 4 April 1815. In that marriage record, *GIUSEPPANTONIO* is identified as being the 46-year-old widow of TEREZA TARTAGLIA and the *son* of TOMMASO DI MUCCIO and ANNA MARIE ROJANO. ROSINA CAPROBELLI was the daughter of ANDREA CAPROBELLI and TEREZA DEL SANTE and was a wool-spinner too. Three children have been found in the records, the first two by the entries in birth registers and the third, a son named MICHELANGELO DI MUCCIO, by an entry in the death register which led back to his birth record. This marriage lasted a decade, until ROSINA died in 1825.

Now with little ones running around, GIUSEPPE, in his mid-50s, could not, and did not, waste time in finding another wife. Three months after ROSINA died, he married MARIA GIUSEPPA GENTILE. She was born in nearby Prajano where her parents lived though she had been living in Piedimonte d'Alife for some time before this marriage. Despite being 42, MARIA still had to have a letter of consent and this came from her mother GIOVANNA as her father had passed away by this time. Their *Proscetti* also included a letter from DON ANDREA MATTEA of Prajano which assisted in some way, perhaps by certifying she had not been married in Prajano. They had a civil ceremony on 6 October and a Catholic one at the *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore* on the 7th.

GIUSEPPE was still a miller or bread maker. What little else is known is that they lived on *Strada Piasetta* and their daughter MARCELLINA died at the age of one on 6 January 1830. This was GIUSEPPE'S longest marriage lasting some 18 years. There probably were more children but this is not certain. They lived on *Strada San Giovanni* in the 1840s and Giuseppe died at home on 10 January 1843.

The life as written leaves one problem – GIUSEPPE'S age. He reported his age as 46 in 1815, thus born around 1769. That would make him 15 in 1784 when his son was born; not impossible but it raises the question of whether or not the parents were married. Or, it raises some doubt about whether or not the age recorded in 1814 was accurate. This is just one instance of the reported age in the records; they give us spans of time longer than a decade. That he is still fathering children in 1820 supports the premise that he was young when he fathered his son VINCENZO some 36 years earlier. Reviewing the ages of GIUSEPPE and ROSINA during their 10 year marriage gives a wide range of birth years for both, based on reported ages. GIUSEPPE was the informant for all the documents and the age he reports for himself gives us a 15-year span of time for his year of birth, 1767 to 1782. The range is 12 years for ROSINA, 1779 – 1791. Chalking up the younger ages reported to vanity, coupled with the knowledge that a person cannot father a child before he is born, the years 1767 – 1769 are the best estimate for GIUSEPPE'S year of birth.

Issue:

- 1) **VINCENZO DI MUCCIO:** He, like his father, first married at a very young age. He was around 15 when he married **VITTORIA DiFUSCO**.
- 2) **MARIA GIUSEPPA DI MUCCIO:** died 11 October 14 at 11 days old.
- 3) **FRANCESCA DI MUCCIO:** Baptized at two days old.

- 4) DOMENICO FILIPPO LUIGI DI MUCCIO: Possibly married MARIA CARMINE BARONE and had a son LUIGI c1859; both had died by 1882. LUIGI DI MUCCIO, 23, born and living in Piedimonte d'Alife and CANITA GRANITTO, 19, born in Castello d'Alife and living in Piedimonte d'Alife were married in Piedimonte d'Alife on 30 November 1882. [Piedimonte d'Alife, 1882, Matrimonio, No. 50; Film 07063123, Image 1303 of 3021]
- 5) MICHELANGELO FRANCESCO DI MUCCIO: Baptized at the *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore* on 28 February 1820, the day he was born. MICHELANGELO, 56 and single, lived at No. 2 *Via Strattala* when he died on 4 December 1876.¹
- 6) MARCELLINA DiMUCCIO: died 6 January 1830 at home.

Notes

PASQUALE DI MUCCIO, 84 (b c1799, Piedimonte d'Alife) died in Piedimonte d'Alife on 28 February 1884. He was the son of GIUSEPPE DI MUCCIO and ELEANORA CICCARELLI of same place. He was a farm laborer living at 9 via Crulla. [Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1884, No. 38; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1729 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.]

CATERINA DI MUCCIO, born c1793 in Piedimonte d'Alife, daughter of PASQUALE and MARIA D'IORIO and widow of FRANCESCO CAREZZE or CARELLA, died at 80 years old on 6 October 1873.

¹ Registri di Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife, Matrimonio, 1815, No. 11. LDS film 1173846; Morti, 1876, No. 180; Family Search Film No.007063123, image 53 of 5021.

Husband's Name: **TOMMASO DI MUCCIO**

Born:

Married:

Died: < 1839

Wife's Name: **ANNA MARIA ROJANO**

Born:

Died:

Issue	Born	Where
1) GIUSEPPE ANTONIO DI MUCCIO	ca. 1765	
2) RAFFAELE DI MUCCIO	ca. 1776	
3) CONSTANTINO PASQUALE DI MUCCIO	ba. 16 Aug 1762	

TOMMASO was a *graviale*, a grainkeeper or miller. He had possibly died by the time of the birth of his grandson NICOLA in 1800.

ISSUE:

- 1) **GIUSEPPE ANTONIO DI MUCCIO**: Married, or at the least, had a son by, **ANNA MARIA PATERNO** in 1784. (Continued in their separate file)
- 2) RAFFAELE DI MUCCIO: Married TEREZA DI IORIO. He was a miller, living on *Strada San Filippo* at his death on 22 December 1839.
- 3) CONSTANTINO PASQUALE DI MUCCIO: Baptized at the *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* with the Priest writing in Latin: *CONSTANTINUS PASCHALY*. He used PASQUALE rather than CONSTANTINO as his name. He married MARIA TEREZIA DI IORIO, daughter of CAROLI DI IORIO and FELICIA SANTOMASSINO. She may have been the wife of his brother RAFFAELE who died in 1839.
 - a. NICOLA MARCELLINO GIROLAMO DI MUCCIO: Baptized 13 March 1800 with record in Latin for *NICOLAI MARCELLINA HYEROLAMEY*.

Husband's Name: **PASQUALE DiFUSCO**

Born:

Married: 26 August 1770 Piedimonte D'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Kingdom of Naples

Died: before 1799

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Wife's Name: **MARTA ZUCCHI**

Born:

Died: before 1803

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

ISSUE:

Antonio Heronymius Vincenzo

Maria Anna Elizabetta Concetta

***Vittoria**

Bapt:

1 Oct. 1771

7 Oct. 1775

2 Nov. 1777

Where:

Piedimonte D'Alife

Piedimonte D'Alife

Piedimonte D'Alife

Pasquale had been married earlier to Francesca MACARO. They were married at Ave Gratia Plena before 18 Sept. 1764. Francesca died within 6 years. It is not known if there were any children from this marriage.

Father Jacobus BEDRANO, of Ave Gratia Plena, performed their marriage ceremony between "Paschalem" and "Marthan," who lived in the valley quarter.

Issue:

Maria's baptismal sponsor was Marianna RACINO.

Vittoria was baptized at Santissima Annunziata Church, later Ave Gratia Plena, her sponsor being Marianna RACINO. She married Vincenzo DiMUCCIO on 10 Sept. 1799. (cont'd. in separate file)

Husband's Name: **GIOVANNI SACCO**
 Born:
 Married:
 Died: before 1812 Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Father:
 Mother:

Wife's Name: **CRISTINA DI PASTO**
 Born: 1756 (?)
 Died: 30 July 1826 Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno delle Due Sicilie
 Father: NICOLA DI PASTO
 Mother: ROSINA ZUPPOLA

Issue:	Born:	Where: Regno di Napoli
FELICIA SACCO	1775-87	Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro
ANGIOLA SACCO	1786	Castello d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro

Castello was a section of Piedimonte d'Alife until the 1770s when it became a separate jurisdiction. It first went by the name Castello di Piedimonte then Castello d'Alife. It became Castello Matese in 1974.

Very little is known at this time. CRISTINA, *70 years old*, was a wool spinner at the time of her death. She was living on *Strada Contila di Giuliantonii* in Castello d'Alife.

CRISTINA'S parents both died before her. Her father was a miller, both were from Castello. Records of Castello d'Alife between 1809 and 1826 do not reflect the deaths of either ROSINA ZUPPOLA or GIOVANNI SACCO.

Issue:

FELICIA SACCO: married **TOMMASO D'AMBROSA** on 22 July 1812 in Piedimonte D'Alife.
 (continued in separate file)

ANGIOLA SACCO: Married **FRANCESCO DELL'UNGARA**. ANGIOLA died in Castello on 4 March 1816, 30 years old, wool spinner.

1) **MARIA EUGENIA DELL'UNGARA:** born 1814 in Castello, died there 22 November 1816.

Notes

Unknown SACCO: VINCENZO SACCO, 45 (b c1838), and his wife MARIA GIUSEPPA TAREVELLIO, 41, had a son RAFFAELE, in Piedimonte d'Alife on 23 July 1883. This cannot be an unidentified son of FILIPPO and MARIA from Aversa, i.e. a brother of GAETANO, as they only had 2 children and both have been identified.¹

¹ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Nascita, 1883, No. 151; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 1424 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

Husband: **GAETANO PIETRO ANTONIO IACUZIO**
 Baptized: 17 May 1778 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Married: 16 December 1800 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli
 Died: 9 February 1835 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno della due Sicilie
 Father: SEBASTIANI IACUZIO (15 Oct. 1755 - ?)
 Mother: ANGIOLA DI IORIO

Wife: **VINCENZA PALUMBO**

Born: ca. 1783
 Died: after 1845
 Father: GIOVANNI BAPTISTA PALUMBO
 Mother: BARBARA PECE (? - 8 Aug. 1814)

Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro
 Regno di Napoli

Issue:	Born:	
1) PORTIA MARIA IACUZIO	28 March 1801	Piedimonte d'Alife
2) ANTONIA IACUZIO	29 December 1805	Piedimonte d'Alife
3) VITTORIA IACUZIO	6 November 1810	Piedimonte d'Alife
4) NICOLA FRANCESCO GIUSEPPE IACUZIO	20 October 1813	Piedimonte d'Alife
5) CECILIA IACUZIO	c1814	Piedimonte d'Alife
<u>Regno della Due Sicilie</u>		
6) PASCALINA IACUZIO	21 September 1818	Piedimonte d'Alife
7) DANIELE PASQUALE IACUZIO	16 May 1821	Piedimonte d'Alife
8) ANGIOLA RAFAELE IACUZIO	14 December 1823	Piedimonte d'Alife
9) RAFFAELA IACUZIO	January 1825	Piedimonte d'Alife

They were married at the *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*, sometimes called *Chiesa di Santa Maria Annunziationi Vallarta*, on the corner of *Via Angelo Scorciarini Coppola* and *Via Annunziata* by VINCENZO JACOBELLI; their witnesses were GIOVANNI and PIETRO MARCHETTI.

GAETANO was a miller and they lived in the *contrada vallata* or valley quarter. The family was on *Strada Contosio* when RAFFAELA died in 1825. At the time of GAETANO'S death in 1835, they were living on *Strada Vicinato*. After his death, the family probably moved to *Strada Capo Vallarta* as this is where their son DANIELE was living when he died in 1837.

Issue

- 1) PORTIA MARIA IACUZIO: baptismal sponsor was MARIA ROSSI and she was baptized by VINCENZO JACOBELLI. Her license to marry MICHELE TESTA is dated 5 December 1818. MARIA was a 17 year old peasant woman and MICHELE a 27 year old miller. They lived on Strada Vicinato. MARIA died 23 April 1845. Her mother was still alive at that time.
- 2) **ANTONIA IACUZIO**: married **PASQUALE DI MUCCIO** on 5 January 1829. (continued in separate file)
- 3) VITTORIA IACUZIO:

- 4) NICOLA FRANCESCO GIUSEPPE IACUZIO: Died at 11 months old, on 4 October 1814 at home.
- 5) CECILIA IACUZIO: her existence became known only after the discovery of the notation of her death in the *Registri*. Her husband was a peasant farmer named MARCELLINO LASSOLA and he died before she did. She was a *contadina*, meaning the *wife of a contadino* who owns no land herself, and she lived at 33 *Via Annunziata*. She died around 5 pm on 16 January 1887. The informants, ANGELO PALUMBO and PASQUALE GAGLIONE, gave her age as 73 which gives a calculated year of birth as 1814 and taking into account the birth of NICOLA, she was born in the Fall or Winter of 1814 – 1815. The informants correctly identify her parents as GAETANO IACUZIO and VINCENZA PALUMBO, *contadino* and *contadina* respectively and both deceased.¹
- 6) PASCALINA IACUZIO: Died just short of her 15th birthday on 4 June 1833.
- 7) DANIELE PASQUALE IACUZIO: He was a miller living on *Strada Capo Vallarta* when he died on 21 July 1837. The family probably moved there as it was, and is, rare to find an unmarried man living away from his parents' home.
- 8) ANGIOLA RAFAELE IACUZIO:
- 9) RAFFAELA IACUZIO: Died at 8 months old on 19 September 1825.

¹ Registri dello Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta); Morti, 1887, No. 15 ; "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Morti, cittadinanze 1876 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1877-1893 Nati 1894 > image 2003 of 3021; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere). Film roll 1801411, DGS 7063123.

Husband:

SEBASTIANO MARIO ANTONIO GIUSEPPE IACUZIO

Bapt: 15 October 1755

Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli

Married: 2 February 1777

Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, Regno di Napoli

Died: before 1800

Father: FRANCESCO ANTONIO IACUZIO (d. before 1777)

Mother: CATARINA GAGLIARDO

Wife:

ANGIOLA DI IORIO

Father: LUTTACHII(?) DI IORIO

Issue:	Born:	Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro Regno di Napoli
*GAETANO PIETRO ANTONIO IACUZIO ANGELA DEA IACUZIO	17 May 1778	Piedimonte d'Alife

They were married at Ave Gratia Plena Church and their witnesses were PIETRO PETRINO, ANTONIO DE GOSTA, and ANGELO BATTROLORENZO.

SEBASTIANO was probably a miller and ANGIOLA a wool spinner, like so many of our ancestors, but this has not been verified.

Issue:

GAETANO IACUZIO: baptismal sponsor, there was only one, was FILIPPO ANTONIO DI RENTO and he was baptized by FRANCESCO CIMINATTI. In this record, the Latin *CAJETANUS PETRUS ANTONIUS* is used. He married VINCENZA PALUMBO on 16 December 1800.

ANGIOLA IACUZIO: married PIETRO PALUMBO on 6 December 1800. It is interesting that ANGIOLA'S brother GAETANO also married a PALUMBO just 10 days later and, moreso, that VINCENZA did have a brother PIETRO, but, we can not assume the spouses of GAETANO and ANGIOLA were siblings without proof. It appears PIETRO died within a few years as, on 3 May 1809, MARIA RAFAELA VETERE was born to VINCENZO VETERE and ANGIOLA DEA IACUZIO, daughter of SEBASTIANO.

IACUZIO is the family name of a Neapolitan family of noble rank, originally from Calabria in the 16th century, "aggregata al Patriziato di Amantea nel 1690." *Amantea* is a town (2007 population just under 14,000) on the Tyrrhenian Coast in the province of Cosenza, *regioni* Calabri. During the 18th century the family moved into Naples as did the vast majority of the nobility, resulting in Napoli being the only urban center in the kingdom. They held offices in the courts *magistraturas* and *armi*, or courts and crews?



Husband's Name:

GIOVANNI BATTISTA PALUMBO

Born:

Married: 23 November 1775 Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno di Napoli*

Died: < 6 December 1800

Wife's Name:

BARBARA PECE

Born: c1750

Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno di Napoli*

Died: 8 August 1814

Piedimonte d'Alife, Terra di Lavoro, *Regno di Napoli*

Where: Provincia di Terra di Lavoro

Issue:

Born/Bapt:

Regno di Napoli

PIETRO FILIPPO NUNZIO PALUMBO

28 May 1778

Piedimonte d'Alife

***VINCENZA PALUMBO**

c1783

FILIPPO GIROLAMO PALUMBO

1796

Piedimonte d'Alife

GIOVANNI BATTISTA is often written as *GIOVANBATTISTA*, even in vital records. They were married at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* by FRANCISCO CANCECUS CIMINELLI. Witnesses were PIETRO PERRINI, GIUSEPPA DEMISSETA and GIUSEPPE DIMUCCIO. The record is in Latin with their names as JOANNEM BAPTISSAM PALUMBO and BARBARUM PECE.

This was the second marriage for GIOVANNI. He had previously married MARRONE MAJELLO who died.

There is, as yet, no mention of a profession for either GIOVANNI or BARBARA.

The family must have been close to that of SEBASTIANI and ANGIOLA IACUZIO, as their children married each other.

GIOVANNI died before his children's marriages. BARBARA died 8 August 1814, at 64 years of age.

Issue:

PIETRO PALUMBO: married ANGIOLA DEA IACUZIO at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena* on 6 December 1800 with witnesses being GIOVANNIA and PIETRO MARCHETTO. ANGIOLA was the daughter of SEBASTIANI IACUZIO and ANGIOLA DI IORIO.

VINCENZA PALUMBO: married **GAETANO IACUZIO**, brother of ANGIOLA, on 16 December 1800 at *Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena*. (their story continues in separate file)

FILIPPO GIROLAMO PALUMBO: painter. Married to CATERINA FERRITO?. He died on 30 January 1871 at his home on *Strada Vicinato*. Entry in *Registri di Morti* names his parents as GIOVAN BATTISTA and BARBARA PECE. His age at death is not clear; it is 65 or 75. The latter is a better fit with the ages of his siblings and, by 1806, his mother, at about 56, was past child-bearing years.¹

MARIA PALUMBO: possible daughter, born c1815; married PIETRO EVANGELISTA; died 2 March 1875 at 60, daughter of FILIPPO, *tintura* – painter.

¹ Stato Civile di Piedimonte d'Alife (Caserta) Morti, 1871, No. 16; Morti, 1875, No. 53. familysearch.org citation: "Italia, Caserta, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Stato Civile (Tribunale), 1866-1929," Piedimonte d'Alife > Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni, morti, cittadinanze 1866-1875 Nati, pubblicazioni, matrimoni 1876 >; Tribunale di Santa Maria Capua Vetere (Santa Maria Capua Vetere Court, Santa Maria Capua Vetere).

Palumbo. Originally Neapolitan, Capua.

Giovan Domenico Palumbo: Order of Malta, 1776.

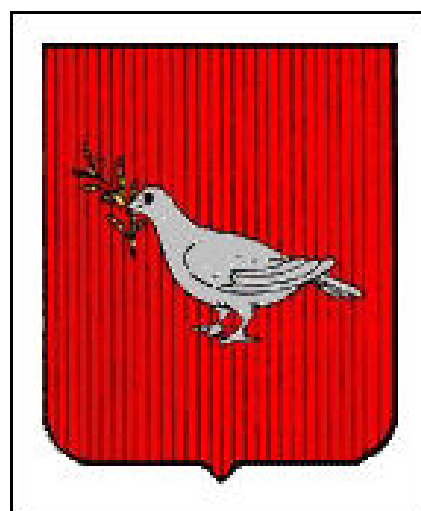
Emanuele Palumbo, son of the baron, lieutenant-colonel in the 3rd Division, Royal Artillery, in defense of Kingdom, 1860 – 1861; promoted to Brigadier-General during defense of Gaeta, decorated with Order of Saint George.

Nicola Palumbo: lieutenant, 1st Infantry Regiment, fought in Palermo and Macerone.

Onofrio Palumbo: Lieutenant-colonel in Carabinieri Regiment in Palermo and Calatafini, capitulated at Nocera.

Vincenzo Palumbo: 2nd Lieutenant, 10th Infantry Regiment on Abbruzzi line, decorated for battle of Calatafini, fought in Palermo, presence at capitulation of Capua November 2, 1860.

Arms: red with silver colomba lieutenant in the beak an olive branch of gold.



Sicilian branch:

Ridolfo Palumbo in Palermo, 1500.

Giovan Francesco Palumbo, doctorate in law, notary in Palermo, 1598.

Gaspere Palumbo, doctorate in law, notary in Palermo, 1615-1616.

Antonio Palumbo: infantry captain, 1634.

Vincenzo Palumbo: senator from Palermo, 1654.

Gaspere Palumbo: doctorate in law, judge in Palermo, 1753 and 1754

Antonio Palumbo: of Furnari and Agnelli, doctorate in law, baron of Patellare, senator in Palermo 3 August 1774.

Arms: blue, with pine tree surmounted by a “colomba appollaiata” in silver and surrounded by 12 gold stars.



Husband's Name: **JOSEPH JOHN SMITH, SENIOR**

Born: 6 January 1883 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary¹
Married: 15 August 1905 Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania²
Died: 5 September 1940 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Buried: *Saint Peter and Saint Paul Slavonic Roman Catholic Cemetery*, Trenton.

Father: JÁNOS SCHMID (15 July 1855 to 15 May 1905)
Mother: ANNA UNTENER (1856 to 30 September 1896)

Wife's Name: **ANNA MARY KUTARNIA**

Born: 22 July 1889 Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania³
Died: 1 November 1978 Trenton, Mercer County, New Jersey
Buried: *Saint Peter and Saint Paul Slavonic Roman Catholic Cemetery*, Trenton.

Father: JOZEF KUTARNYA (6 January 1862 to 21 April 1922)
Mother: KATHRYN HASZAY (December 1864 to 11 March 1933)

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) MARY MARGARET SMITH	1 September 1906	Forest City (Susquehanna) PA
2) JOSEPH JOHN SMITH, JUNIOR	6 October 1907	Forest City (Susquehanna) PA
3) ANNIE SMITH	2 April 1909	Forest City (Susquehanna) PA
4) HELEN SMITH	16 February 1912	Simpson (Lackawanna) PA
5) MICHAEL JOSEPH SMITH	1 November 1913	Jessup (Lackawanna) PA
6) MARGARET ROMAYNE SMITH	15 December 1917	Forest City (Susquehanna) PA
7) JOHN J. SMITH	14 June 1920	Forest City (Susquehanna) PA
8) KATHRYN VIRGINIA SMITH	12 July 1924	Braeholm, Logan County, WV
9) VALENTINE WILLIAM SMITH	12 July 1924	Braeholm, Logan County, WV

On 15 August 1905 they were married at *Saint Anthony of Padua* (Lithuanian) Roman Catholic Church at 512 Lackawanna Street in Forest City. The ceremony was performed by FATHER JANOS KURAS. The best-man was FRANCIS "FRANK" KUTARNIA and the maid-of-honor was ANNA TIMKO.⁴ At the time there was this Lithuanian church, a Polish church (*Sacred Heart*

¹Baptismal Record Book, Volume V, page 272, No. 6, Jozsef Smid; in possession of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Satoralijauhely, Hungary. Transcript obtained through the Embassy of the Hungarian People's Republic, 3910 Shoemaker St., Washington, D.C. 20008. Copy of original certificate is in possession of author.

²"Consent to the Marriage of a Child", "Application for Marriage License", "Marriage License", and "Certificate of Marriage"; Docket No. 3, page 375, No.106; Joseph Smith and Annie Kutarnia; Orphan's Court, Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, PA. 18801; St. Anthony's Parish records, Marriages,, Volume 1, page 90, deposited at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Forest City,PA.

³Baptismal Record of Annie Kutarnia; St. Steven's Roman Catholic Church, 24 Wadham St., Plymouth, PA. 18651

of Jesus) and a Slovenian church (*Saint Joseph's*) to choose from, besides the Irish *Saint Agnes*. A Slovak National Church, *Saint Michael the Archangel*, finally opened in 1914. They resided with the bride's parents, JOSEPH and KATTIE KUTARNIA, but it isn't known if they were in the KUTARNIA homestead at 243 Delaware initially or the property next door at 239 Delaware Street.⁵ JOSEPH and his mother-in-law were frequently "at odds" with each other. It appears that KATHRYN was not pleased with ANNA's choice of a husband as he was not Slovak. They remained in Forest City until at least 1910, where they are found living in the house at 239 Delaware Street owned by ANNA's parents. JOSEPH was a hotel proprietor by this time and they had three children: MARY, JOSEPH JUNIOR, and ANNIE.⁶ In Forest City, MARY and JOSEPH attended a *Slavish* school where the classes were taught in Slovak; why this was done is not known. They moved south along the Lackawanna River to Simpson, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania where they operated a produce market and a clothing store. Their fourth child, HELEN, was born in the produce market.⁷ On 9 September 1909 JOSEPH filed for naturalization in the U.S. District Court, in Scranton, Pennsylvania and received it on 28 December 1911.⁸ Continuing southward along the Lackawanna River, they moved to Jessup, Pennsylvania where they ran a beer-garden. The beer garden should not be confused with a bar. Ladies were not allowed in bars but a beer garden was different. There was a dance floor and tables and couples would spend an evening there dancing to live music and talking. There is a section of the town, called the "Basalyga Patch" that was heavily populated with immigrants from Eastern Europe and may have been the location of the beer garden. The use of this term may be an attempt to give the establishment a classier sound as one old timer from the County Recorder's Office could not recall there ever being such an establishment there.⁹ One of the SMITH boys referred to the business as a bar when describing an incident years later when he went to the bar with his mother. ANNA walked in, went to the bar and, pointing to gouge in the top, described how a delivery man scratched the surface!¹⁰ Their fifth child, MICHAEL, was born in the beer garden.¹¹

They returned to Forest City by September 1918 where they moved back in with ANNA's parents at 237 Delaware St. He worked as a laborer in the coal mines for *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* as did his father-in-law.¹² This company was the principal subsidiary of the *Erie*

⁴ Certificate of Matrimony of Joseph Smith and Annie Kutarnia; Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church, 612 Hudson St., Forest City, PA. 18421

⁵ Marriage announcement of Joseph Smith and Anna Kutarnia; 17 August 1905, Forest City News, 636 Main St., Forest City, Pa.

⁶ 1910 US Census: Susquehanna Co, PA.; Forest City, 1st Ward, 18/19 April 1910, p. 6A, fa 102, dw 60, lines 39-44, ED 64.

⁷ Mary (Smith) Neville, conversations with author, 1986 and 25 January 1989, Placentia, CA.

⁸ "Declaration of Intention," filed 9 September 1909 (No. 5126); "Petition for Naturalization and Affidavits," filed 9 September 1911; and "Oath of Allegiance and Order of Court Admitting Petitioner," dated 28 December 1911; General Services Administration, Room 1350, 9th & Market Sts., Philadelphia, PA. 19107

⁹ Frank Berri, Lackawanna County Recorder's Office (200 N. Washington Scranton, PA 18503) letter to author, 24 March 1995.

¹⁰ Valentine W. Smith, conversation with author, circa 1985, Jupiter, FL.

¹¹ Mary (Smith) Neville (note 7)

¹² Military Registration Card for Joseph Smith, Serial No. 2926, Order No. A641, No. 37-4-34-C; Federal Archives and Records Center, 1557 St. Joseph Ave., East Point, GA. 30344

Railroad and had leased all of the Forest City area for its mining activities. 80% of coal mining was done by the “railroad coal companies” who wanted to control retail prices and guarantee their own needs with their very low cost being subsidized by the retail purchaser. However Hillside was not profitable and the Erie had to provide almost \$800K to cover a 5-year deficit from 1904 to 1908.

They had two more children: MARGARET and JOHN. On 15 June 1919, ANNA applied for membership in the Forest City Lodge Number 23 of the *Greek Catholic Union of Rusyn Brotherhoods* (est 1892). On her application she gives her birth date as 22 June 1890 and lists her husband as beneficiary of a \$1000.00 insurance policy.¹³ ANNA was not Greek Catholic but may have identified with the Rusyn identity – that being Ukrainians that lived in the Carpathian Mountains. She may have also joined the National Slovak Society (est 1890) around this time, following the example set by her parents, for there are vague references to an insurance policy issued for her by that fraternal association. By January 1920 they had moved to nearby 36 Maxey Street where JOHN was born. JOSEPH was working as a machinist in the coal mines. The census gives his birthplace as “JugoSlav” and mother tongue as “Sloven”.¹⁴

About this time, “MR. FORD” representing the *Buffalo Eagle Collier Company* of West Virginia came to Forest City and offered families’ good pay, room and board if they would relocate. It is thought the company may have had a “partner” mine in Forest City, perhaps *Hillside Coal and Iron*. Coal mining along Buffalo Creek in Logan County began in earnest after 1912 when a railroad spur was run along the creek bed by the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. ANNA was asked to run a boarding house there, which she agreed to do. As JOSEPH and his mother-in-law did not get along this was the perfect opportunity to move. ANNA was so insistent that when JOSEPH got “cold feet” and was ready to stay in Forest City, ANNA told him, in a firm manner, that she would be on the train with the children whether or not he was there. In fact, ANNA used to tell the story that she and the children were waiting at the train station in Forest City and she had to send the older children to a local pub to fetch JOSEPH! JOSEPH acquiesced and they moved, by train, to West Virginia. JOSEPH, who spent years working in the mines started to develop serious “rheumatism” by his mid-30s. It became increasingly difficult for him to walk the distances required in the mines. JOSEPH was hired as a recruiter for the mines, traveling to obtain the labor necessary for the mines while ANNA would operate a boarding house. Nineteen families, including JOSEPH’S, moved to Becco, Triadelphia Township, Logan County, West Virginia, on the 11th of November 1920.¹⁵

Becco was named using the first letters of the *Buffalo Eagle Collier Company*.¹⁶ Only Becco mine # 2 and mine # 3 were producing between 1925 and 1928; the combined output, in tons (chronological order by year) was 614,792; 427,574; 413,788 and 341,906. The company owned everything and paid its employees with company script which could only be used at the

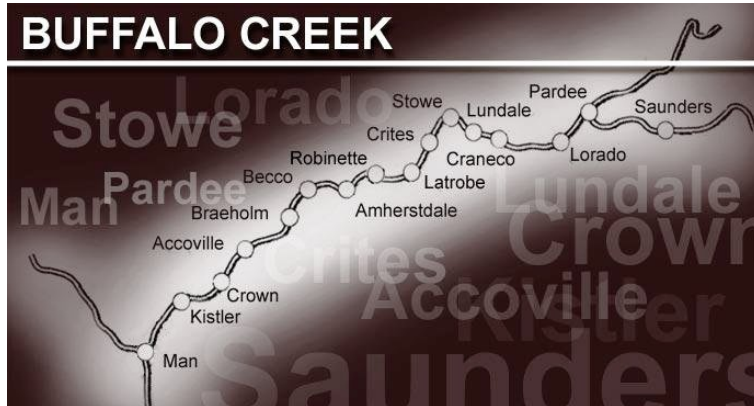
¹³ Greek Catholic Union of Rusin Brotherhoods in the United States of America, Forest City Branch 23, Insurance Policy dated 15 June 1919; Greek Catholic Union 5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009-9513.

¹⁴ 1920 US Census: Susquehanna Co, PA.; Forest City Borough, 15 January 1920, p. 11B, dw 173, fa 189, lines 65-72, ED 68.

¹⁵ *Ibid*

¹⁶ Douth, Logan County, p. 10

company owned drugstore and provisions store in town. Other businesses were allowed, such as shoe repair, but the mine owned the property. All the businesses closed at 5:00 pm except for the drugstore which closed at 9:00 pm. The last show of the movie house would be over by 9:00 pm which was the time the whistle blew in town to let everyone know the time. The whistle would again blow at 5:00 am to wake the miners and the children. Each “company town” had their own mining company and throughout the town was different openings for the mines, each assigned their own number. The company built a small grade school and non-denominational church in each town. Once you stopped working for the company you must move as the company owned the house you were in. Several of the small towns were host to more than one mining company.



Buffalo Creek ran through a valley down from the mountain and along its course were the railroad and several small towns, including **BECCO**. These towns were actually built in the creek’s flood plain and were centered on a small stream which ran into Buffalo Creek. The stream led the way *up into the hollow*. The farthest up the creek were 2 mining camps: **PARDEE** on the Toney

Branch of the creek had the *Lorado Coal Company* and **THREE FORKS** on the Three Forks Branch had the *Three Forks Coal Company*. **THREE FORKS** was later renamed **SAUNDERS**. The first real town “up the creek” was **LORADO** founded in 1914 as **LORAIN** where Davy Creek flows into Buffalo Creek. Named after the *Lorain Coal and Dock Company*, it was renamed **LORADO** in 1915; in 1920 the population was near 800. After the town name changed, so did the company, it became the *Lorado Coal and Dock Company*. The *Lorado Coal Mining Company* also operated in the town. Further along the creek were the towns of **CRANECO** named after the Cincinnati-based lumbar company *Crane and Cole*, **LUNDALE** with the *Lundale Coal Company*, *Amherst Coal Company* and the *Logan County Coal Corporation*; **STOWE** and the *Long Flame Coal Company*; **CRITES**, home of the *Logan Eagle Coal Company*; **LATROBE**, where the *Logan Eagle Coal Company* had a second mine as did the *Lundale Coal Company*; **ROBINETTE** was named after the family that owned the store there and no mines have been identified with the town; then came a trio of towns affiliated with the *Amherst Coal Company* and the *Buffalo Eagle Colliery Company* – **AMHERSTDALE**, **BECCO**, and **BRAEHOLM**. The owners of the *Amherst Coal Company* all hailed from Amherst County, Virginia and one, **GEORGE JONES**, offered the suggestion of affixing ‘dale’ to the county name to serve as the companies name.¹⁷ **AMHERSTDALE** (1920 population near 390) also had the *Guyan Eagle Coal Company* and *Prockter Eagle Coal Company* operating mines there. **BRAEHOLM** was founded as **SHERMAN** in 1916, became **BAYMAN** in 1918 and was renamed **BRAEHOLM** in 1920.¹⁸ The older **SMITH**

¹⁷ Doutt, Logan County, pp. 4-5

¹⁸ Doutt, Logan County, p. 15



children recall the **BECCO** company store being in **AMHERSTDALE**. This may indicate that the owners of *Buffalo Eagle* had business dealings with the owners of *Amherst Coal* since the scrip of one company was not usually accepted at businesses owned by a different company. Leaving **BRAEHOLM** and continuing down the creek towards **MAN**, the next town, **ACCOVILLE**, was established about 1916 and was located at the mouth of the Right Fork of Buffalo Creek.¹⁹ The *Amherst Coal Company* was very prominent

in the area and **ACCOVILLE** was named, possibly by JONES, by using the first letters of the company's name. **ACCOVILLE** also had mines from the *Buffalo Creek Coal and Coke Company*, the *Carbon Hill Collieries Company*, the *Deegan-Eagle Coal Company*, the *Loash Coal Company*, and the *R.R. Smith Coal Company*. The next town was **CROWN** which had the *Callaway Eagle Coal Company*, *Crown Hill Coal Company*, *Guyan Valley Coal Company*, *Lax Coal Company* and the *Loash Coal Company* followed by **KISTER** with the *Bengal Coal Company*, *Buffalo Chilton Coal Company*, *Burgess Branch Coal Company*, *Eagle Island Coal Company*, *Utilities Coal Company*, *West Virginia Southern Coal Company* and finally **MAN**, the total distance being about 25 miles from **LORADO** to **MAN**.

The mines recruited heavily from the eastern European communities in and around Pittsburgh, Scranton and other mining centers during the 1920s. Buffalo Creek had many distinct ethnic populations and most towns had informal socializing groups and Sunday was for visiting your compatriots in neighboring towns. Becco had one main business street with residences at either end. Becco's businesses included JACKSON'S Barber shop and MENKO'S shoe shop (possibly the same who were baptismal sponsors for VALENTINE); the general store was in Amherstdale. It was a segregated area with black people living "across the creek" (access was across the railroad bridges) from the main part of town.²⁰

At first, the SMITHS had two houses, side-by-side, one for the family and one for boarders, at the base of a hill of slate removed from the mine, not to be confused with the later one "up in the hollow".²¹ It was common for most of the "foreign" people to operate boarding houses. A family would rent one or more houses from the mining company for a set rent. The family would then charge each boarder for their room and meals. The meals included bacon and eggs for breakfast, big sandwiches from fresh bread and leftovers for lunch and meat and potatoes for dinner. The boarders were very transient, sometimes only being around for a month before moving to another mine. As the mines closed, the European communities were no longer viewed with a kind eye but with a distrustful one. Jobs dwindled and the ethnic Americans were left to fend for themselves in numbers greater than their proportionate size justified; disillusioned

¹⁹ Douth, Logan County, p. 3; Kenny, WV Place Names, p. 72

²⁰ Sophie and Millie Kovich, conversation with author, 1993, Hollywood, CA.

²¹ Mary (Smith) Neville (note 7)

with this new “American” way, most had left the area by 1950.

Each house had five rooms on the first floor. The central front door led directly to the stairs that went to the second floor. On the first floor, to the left of the staircase was the living room; to the right, the dining room. Behind the living room was an office or workroom. Next to the dining room was the kitchen and behind this was JOSEPH and ANNA’S bedroom. The boarder’s house was next door and was similar in layout. Behind these was a small barn for cows, chickens, a horse and, occasionally a pig would be bought for slaughter. JOSEPH also



brewed jug-wine in the attic of the house. West Virginia was “dry” but the foreigners always had liquor as it was custom and considered impolite to not be able to offer your fellow countryman a drink. The men would meet, converse in their native language, play instruments, if they knew how, and drink. The first floor “office” served as the “moonshine room” where the boarders would “throw a buck in the drawer” to imbibe in the jug-wine or moonshine sitting in jugs on the counter.²²

There were occasional visits by the “revenueurs”. The still was dismantled and hidden within the house. One large part was a rain barrel which would be placed in the yard and a wash tub was placed over it, often with little JOHNNY SMITH atop, as if it had always been there.²³

When they first arrived their spiritual needs were met by a mission of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church of Logan, WV. Services were held in Lundale under the name of Saint Michael’s with baptismal and marriage registers commencing in 1919. Saint Michael’s became a parish in 1922 and ended up having 3 of its own missions during its brief, 15-year, life-span – the missions were in Lorado, Amherstdale and Earling, another small town along the Guyandotte River on the way to Man. No photographs of this Church have been found and it was thought that the parish used a company-built building but the archivist for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston believes otherwise; parishes had at least one resident priest meaning they either lived in a rectory or some other rented space in Lundale and having living space without actually having a Church is very uncommon.²⁴ However, information obtained from the Federal Census returns and City Directories indicates that the parish priest, Reverend JEREMIAH J. DAVERN actually lived in Courtland City, NY through the 1920s and early 1930s, and moved to Oswego, NY in the mid-1930s. They would take trips to Trenton, NJ to visit JOSEPH’S half-sister

²² Mary (Smith) Neville (note 7)

²³ John J. Smith, conversation with author, August 1986, Trenton, NJ

²⁴ Jon-Eric Gilot, archivist, Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston; e-mails to author dated 25 and 26 February 2013 and 4 March 2013. Interestingly, on a hand-drawn map to the author from Irene Moore, dated 30 June 2002, she clearly labels the “Catholic Church” in Lorado yet Sophie and Millie Kovich, sisters, Roman Catholics and Lorado residents from the 1920s to the mid-1950s have categorically stated to the author more than once that there were no Roman Catholic Churches along the course of Buffalo Creek; the nearest services, which they attended, were at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Logan.

ELIZABETH SZABO and half-brother BALINT SMITH who had recently moved there. On one of these visits they joined Branch 13 (Trenton) of the *Verhovay Segely Egylet* (Verhovay Aid or Fraternal Insurance Association, est 1886) which endeavored to preserve Hungarian culture in America. It was named in honor of the popular Hungarian Parliament member from the 1880s GYULA VERHOVAY (1849 – 1906). He was a strong supporter of workers and a member of the ultra-left Independence Party. They obtained life insurance, or actually obtained replacement policies, from this branch, on 1 January 1924, indicative of an earlier membership. That the policies were replacements indicates an earlier membership, probably in a Pennsylvania branch but the company, the William Penn Association since 1955, has not been able to locate the original policies. They must have long-planned the move to Trenton as they stated on their application they were residents of the city even though that wouldn't become a reality for another four years.²⁵

On 12 July 1924 NANA gave birth one last time – to twins: KATHRYN VIRGINIA and VALENTINE WILLIAM were born *around 8 pm in Braeholm* according to the *attending doctor*. However older sister MARY relates a different story: when she came home from school at midday NANA was working in the kitchen. NANA told her there was a surprise for her to see on NANA's bed and when she went to see – there were the twins! Twins were quite rare and ANNA became very well known as a result. The *attending doctor*, C.A. MARTIN, lived in Amherstdale and must have had his office in Braeholm. The doctor didn't file the certificates until the last day of the year by which time he most likely forgot what he had been told. He probably didn't *attend* anything - NANA was quite capable at giving birth without interference! When the doctor got around to filling out the paperwork required to get a birth certificate (for that was all his attention was really required for) 5 ½ months later, he wrote down whatever time came to mind.

The SMITH'S became good friends with JOSEPH and ANNIE KOVICH of Lorado and spent many Sundays visiting their place at 19 Public Road in *Davey's Hollow*.²⁶ Their daughter MILLIE recalls JOSEPH and ANNA as being heavy set and fair skinned. Three or four families of Eastern European descent would converge on the Serbian KOVICH home. MILLIE and her sister SOPHIE described the area for me one day: all the towns were *closed* on Sunday with only the movie house open. You could not sew or wash clothes on Sunday either. There were no telephones so you always expected company. During the week you spent evenings getting ready for the next day, baking bread, cleaning and, if time allowed, sitting and relaxing on the porch. The week was scheduled so that everyone would wash clothes on Monday, iron on Tuesday, etc. The women and children would clean the house every day and then go to the store for food for that day. You would have your own vegetable garden to tend. On Saturday all the floors in the house would be scrubbed. *Canning* time would come around just after the vegetable garden had been harvested. Your friends would come around and help you can everything possible to get ready for the

²⁵ The Verhovay Aid Association, Trenton Branch 13, policy number 70954, replacing policy number 45987, and policy number 70953 replacing 27138, 1 January 1924; William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233, correspondence from, dated 15 July 2004. Their letter is somewhat confusing as they attribute policy number 70954 to Joseph, while the photocopy I have for this one is clearly Anna's. It is also not clear if the 1924 date is the date of the original policy or the replacement ones.

²⁶ 1920 US Census: Logan Co, WV; Triadelphia Township, 10 February 1920, p. 4A, dw 67, fa 68, lines 7 - 13, ED 38, film 154.

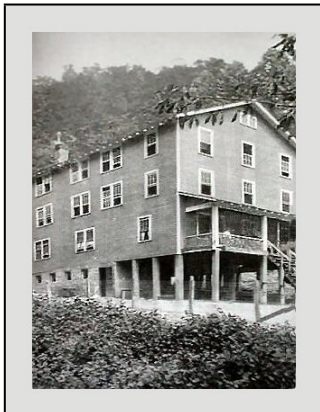
coming winter.

Grapes were grown in the area and a popular occasion was the *grape party* where bunches of grapes were hung about and anyone caught taking a grape would have to put some money into a pot, probably to cover the costs of the dance. After the dance JOSEPH would frequently gather the grapes and invite many people back to the house where an impromptu *grape stomping party* would take place.²⁷

MARGARET relayed the following story as well. A laborer arrived one day from Ohio and boarded at the SMITH house. He was always talking about being “chased” by someone. About a month went by and MARGARET was cleaning the rooms when she discovered bloody handprints on the wall with streaks down leading to the body of the man who apparently had committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor. JOSEPH, JUNIOR was called back from Marshall College in Huntington to help clean the blood-stained room – a task the SMITH women and the SMITH men apparently, were not up to.

²⁷ Margaret Gurland, conversation with author, July 1995, Fresno, CA.

On the 20th of September 1924 rain started and continued for two days. The little stream that ran behind the house started to swell. On Sunday, the 21st, a landslide started, and the slate hillside, along with mud, advanced on the house.²⁸ “NANA” grabbed the twins and placed them with the rest of the children in the care of neighbors. She returned to the house to help JOSEPH who was suffering from an acute “rheumatism” attack causing his feet and ankles to be very swollen and painful. He was carried out by some of the boarders, including GEORGE FINNIE, his favorite. ANNA went inside to retrieve JOSEPHS’ new suit and diamond watch. She also managed to grab a couple fistfuls of script, which was lying on the bureau, as the rent from the boarders had not been deposited in the company bank. The mud on the first floor was about two feet deep by this time and she had trouble making her way back out. GEORGE FINNIE went into the falling house and carried her out. The foundation of the house had already started to shift and the whole structure was leaning forward as the slate and mud was up to the second story in the rear of the house. So much was pouring in through the shattered windows that a piano located on the landing at the top of the stairs was pushed down the staircase. The building collapsed forward with the second story separating from the first and being carried several yards by the advancing slide; finally coming to rest on an odd angle after spinning ninety degrees. The first floor was buried underneath the slate and mud. It is believed that

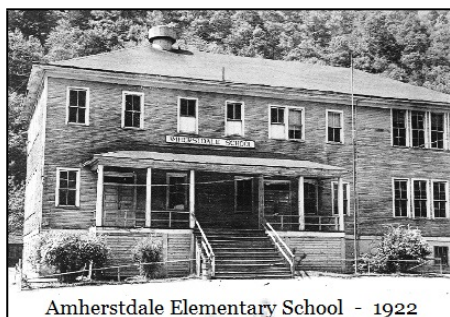


JOSEPH and ANNA’S personal belongings, such as their marriage record and his naturalization papers as well as any photographs, would have been in their bedroom. The company tried to dig out the house, probably in an effort to retrieve items such as those described; however their efforts were frustrated by the continually collapsing walls of slate and mud. Whatever was buried is probably still there after all these years.

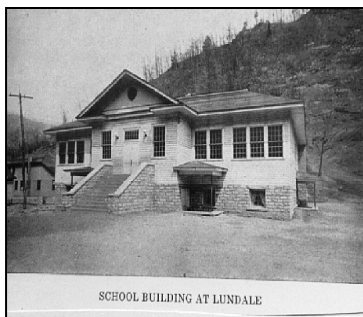
GEORGE FINNIE then helped to rescue some of the animals from the barn before that collapsed. After the flood, they stayed in MR. FORD’S house *up the hill* then in the company *clubhouse*. The mining company built a house for them at *the other end* of town. It was a three-story building, under which was a parking area and wash area for the boarders. The first floor had two dining halls for fifteen to twenty people each, parlor, large kitchen and three bedrooms. The second and third floors each had ten bedrooms, five on each side of the hall, with



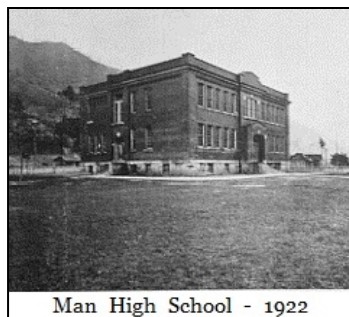
²⁸ “County Is Visited By Worst Flood In Years,” *The Logan Banner*, 26 September 1924, page 1, column 6 (Logan, WV)



Amherstdale Elementary School - 1922



SCHOOL BUILDING AT LUNDALE



Man High School - 1922

a washroom at the end of the hall.²⁹ The house stood for many years, finally succumbing to a devastating flood in February 1972 that destroyed every structure in Becco, save one. This flood makes finding any personal belongings of the SMITH'S that were buried in the 1924 flood much more difficult as all structures that could have been used to locate the site of that house were washed away. This became the *big* house in Becco as MILLIE KOVICH remembers.

The family had musical talent and enjoyed playing a variety of instruments: JOSEPH on the fiddle and xylophone, MARY on the steel guitar and JOSEPH, JUNIOR played saxophone. The children went to grade school in neighboring Amherstdale, junior high in Lundale, then about 3 miles away, and high school in Man, about 15 miles away. The school bus to Man left at 7:00 am. The SMITHS were quite well off and, in fact, had one of the first radios and gramophones in the area. They owned a *Pace* automobile, as yet unidentified, which was hit by a school bus. KATHRYN was hurt in the accident, receiving a cut on her face which left a scar.³⁰

After a couple of years in the big house in Becco, JOSEPH and ANNA left the employ of *Buffalo Eagle* which meant leaving Becco. Becco's mine production had dropped by a full-third from 1925 to 1927 which may have fed into their decision to move. They moved to Lundale and into a smaller house which had room for ten to twelve boarders, relieving what must have been a back-breaking life for ANNA. GEORGE JONES, for unknown reasons, named the town Lundale when the *Amherst Coal Company* opened a mine there.³¹ The town hosted two other mines as well: the *Logan County Coal Corporation* and the *Lundale Coal Company*. JOSEPH and ANNA worked for one of the three coal companies but which one is not known. And, in case of injury, Lundale had the only hospital along the course of Buffalo Creek.

And what of the tale that the KKK burned a cross in front of the SMITH house? The revived Knights of the Ku Klux Klan saw staggering membership rolls in the 1920s with over three million members! The resurrected KKK was not only for racial supremacy but religious supremacy as well as being "pro-American" which meant anti-immigrant. Roman Catholics, Jews and immigrants joined the ranks of the Negro as the number of despised and targeted groups increased. The border of Logan County was more than a political boundary – it also represented the boundary between coal mine owners and coal miners. Logan County was a union-free county while neighboring Mingo County was union. The county border was the

²⁹ Mary (Smith) Neville (note 7)

³⁰ Kathryn Spych, conversation with author, Trenton, NJ.

³¹ Doult, Logan County, p. 67



“front” in the union wars of the 1920s and company owners were quick to use any and all available tools to keep the unions out of Logan County. One way was to play on the fears of personal injury and the burning of crosses in front of those who were targets of the white, Protestant Knights of the KKK surely fanned the flames. So the tale is most certainly true in some of its elements – there probably was a cross burned and it may very well have been in front of the SMITH’S house. Looking at photographs of the time spent in Becco by the SMITH’S it

becomes readily apparent that the house they lived in from 1920 until the 1924 flood was too small and closed-in with neighbors to have a cross-burning in front of it. The “big house” however provided an ideal site for such an event – it was big, it was separate and it was identified with a Roman Catholic immigrant family. Burning a cross here would send the desired message to *all* of Becco’s Roman Catholic immigrant families at once. Considering this, the cross-burning would most-likely have taken place while they lived in the “big house” in Becco in 1925 and ’26. Their Becco home before this time and their Lundale home afterwards did not present the same opportunity to convey a message to many people at the same time. Just *who* burned and cross and *what was the intended message* – mine owners with anti-union leanings or Klansmen with anti-Catholic ones – will probably never be known.

While in West Virginia, JOSEPH also owned a small apartment house with a drugstore in Youngstown, Ohio. He supposedly fell behind in tax payments and, when sued over an accident that occurred on the premises, he turned over the title of the property as settlement. It is also thought that he owned property in Miami, FL, but this has not been verified.³² These purchases may have reflected their desire to move away from the area.

JOSEPH was a man who knew the importance of his health. He went on yearly trips to Sarasota Springs in Florida and to the hot springs in Maryland. He, and his family, benefited from the care of a chiropractic doctor from early on, a trait passed on to his children. In fact, two of his grandsons are doctors of chiropractic. Between his visits to health spas and his recruiting trips he was frequently away from home which left the heavy burden of raising a large family and running the boarding houses to ANNA and the older children. This work load, plus JOSEPH’S increasing disability weighed heavy on their life and was important in their decision to seek a new life.

On a trip to Trenton, NJ, JOSEPH saw a three-story building on South Broad Street that he wanted to buy. It was built in 1912 on a 25 x 100’ lot. Designed as an owner-occupied business, it had a business on the first floor facing Broad Street with the home on the second floor. On 2 February 1925 they bought the building and lot at 1243 South Broad Street at the intersection with Dayton Street from JOHN and SUSANNAH HEIDI. The HEIDI’S owned the property for just five months having bought the property from JOSEPH and HELEN KOZLOWSKI on 10 September

³² John J. Smith (note 14).

1924.³³ The building number was 1243 for a few years after being built but 1237 is the number used since the 1920s. The description for both numbers is the same: *Lot 16 on Plan of Lots of Trenton Realty Company, filed 18 June 1904*. JOSEPH and ANNA assumed an \$8,000.00 five-year mortgage that the HEIDI's had just given to MARY J. HALSEY on 31 January 1925 for 1243 South Broad Street.³⁴ Their children relate that they paid \$20,000.00 cash for the property but this is not quite accurate. JOSEPH's half-sister, ERZSÉBET SCHMID, had only moved to Trenton and married MICHAEL SZABO within the year.

EDWARD BLOCK, who had a small grocery store at 201 North Broad Street from 1920 to 1925, rented the whole building and ran a store from the front for 3 years starting in 1925. BLOCK's PRODUCE MARKET was still open in 1928 at 1237 South Broad Street.³⁵ White City Market farther down on South Broad was owned by a BLOCK family in later years but it is not certain if this was the same family.

Despite owning property in Trenton, the SMITH's continued to live in the Buffalo Creek area for 3 more years. Another flood washed away 3 houses in Becco on June 29th and 30th in 1928.³⁶ Possibly encouraged by this latest natural disaster, they left in early August 1928. From West Virginia they traveled for a month through Ohio and to Chicago before arriving in Trenton in early September.

Before leaving Buffalo Creek it should be mentioned that nothing remains as it was in the 1920s. A disaster occurred on 26 February 1972 which wiped out most of the towns. The *Buffalo Creek Coal Company* had built several impoundment ponds or dams above Saunders in the 1950s and 60s that were unstable. After a particularly long and hard rain, the largest impoundment dam collapsed sending 138 million gallons of black waste water cascaded down the narrow hollow, crashing on and obliterating Saunders first. Some towns, like Lorado, escaped with minimal damage as the surging current washed up one side of the valley and then crossed the valley floor to careen up the opposite side. Becco was demolished completely; only one building remained standing. 125 persons were dead, another 1,000 were injured and over 500 homes were demolished; property damage exceeded \$50 million.

JOSEPH and ANNA took over the market after the BLOCK family left. The building was large with a kitchen and formal dining room on the first floor behind the market. The parlor and bedrooms were on the second floor and there was a large attic on the third which was a great place to play in stormy weather. They obtained a \$5000.00 1-year mortgage, with 6% interest; from Trenton Trust Company on 13 November 1928 for 1237 South Broad Street. The 1925 mortgage for \$8,000.00 they assumed upon purchase came due at the end of January 1930. They refinanced it with a \$7000.00 plus 5.5% interest 1-year mortgage from the Trenton Savings Fund Society on 25 February 1930.³⁷ The address in the 1925 mortgage is 1243 South Broad Street

³³ Number 271, 1237 South Broad Street, Trenton Tax Assessment Department, 14 April 1936; refers to Page 175, lot 16. Currently (2004) in possession of the Trenton Public Library, Main Branch, Jerseyanna Department.

³⁴ Mercer County Deeds, Volume , page 189; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ

³⁵ *Fitzgerald's Trenton & Mercer County Directory*, 1928, pages 95 & 270; Fitzgerald's Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Main Branch.

³⁶ "Flood Toll: 3 Dead; Property Loss \$1,000,000," *The Logan Banner*, 3 July 1928, page 1, column 4 (Logan, WV)

which was the address stated in the 1930 mortgage as well.

When they moved in, as can be seen in the photograph, there was a large side porch and VALENTINE recalls many good times playing on it, and some bad, as when he kicked a soccer ball through the front window around 1932! It would remain an open porch until 1937.

The grand opening of *SMITH'S NEW PRODUCE MARKET, formerly BLOCK'S, at 1237 South Broad Street "Carrying a Complete Supply of Fresh Produce"* was on 9 August 1928.³⁸ *SMITH'S PRODUCE MARKET* is found in the 1929 Trenton City Directory but not after that.³⁹ After two unsuccessful years, JOSEPH had no business sense when it came to reducing prices for older fruits and vegetables to get them out of the store before they rotted according to his daughter MARGARET, he looked for someone to rent the storefront while he entered radio sales. The 1930 Federal Census list JOSEPH as a *radio salesman* and states he owned 1237 South Broad Street whose value was \$16,800. Daughter ANNE is a saleslady in a notions store while son MICHAEL is a mail boy in a *wire mill* store.⁴⁰ MICHAEL BASSO ran BASSO'S PRODUCE MARKET at neighboring 1257 South Broad and nearby 905 South Broad Street in 1930, having moved from a store he had at 835 Cass Street in 1920.⁴¹ The following year he is still at 1257 South Broad but the second store is at 900 rather than 905 South Broad. JOSEPH looked no further than a couple doors down the street for a tenant – in 1931 he rented the storefront to MICHAEL BASSO. In the 1932 Trenton City Directory JOSEPH'S residence is 1237 South Broad while BASSO'S MARKET is at the same address.⁴² BASSO'S MARKET is found at this address for just the one year; whether this short stay was prompted by BASSO'S desire to move or JOSEPH'S anticipation and preparation for opening a bar once Prohibition was repealed. By the end of 1932 Basso's Market had moved a few blocks to Greenwood Avenue north of Olden Avenue. JOSEPH SMITH is found simply as a *salesman* in the city directories through 1933.

In anticipation of the repeal of Prohibition by the 21st amendment in 1933, JOSEPH took back the storefront and began the conversion of the space into a more familiar venture by converting the market into a bar which he named *The Dayton House Pub*. Within a few months of the repeal, the *Dayton House* was open for business after getting a temporary alcoholic beverage license issued by the *New Jersey State Beverage Commissioner* D. FREDERICK BURNETT. This first license was a temporary measure to allow for businesses to get licensed while the cities got their licensing boards up and running. The state license expired at midnight on 30 June 1934 and future licensing would come through the *Trenton Board of Alcoholic*

³⁷ Mercer County Mortgages, vol. 502, p. 343, recorded 4 December 1928; and vol. 520, p. 471, recorded 26 February 1930.

Both mortgages describe the land as "Lot 16 on the Plan of Lots of the Trenton Realty Company filed 18 June 1904." Though the former gives 1237, while the latter has 1243 as the street number.

³⁸ *Trenton Evening Times*, 8 August 1928, p 10, c 7

³⁹ *Fitzgerald's Trenton & Mercer County Directory*, 1929, page 889; *Fitzgerald's Directory Company*, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Main Branch.

⁴⁰ 1930 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 11th Ward, block 524, 7 April 1930, ED 11-56, sht 9A, dw 128, fa 130, lines 8-16.

⁴¹ *Fitzgerald's Trenton & Mercer County Directory*; 1930: pp. 94, 875; 1931: p.782; 1932: p.741; 1933: p.726; *Fitzgerald's Directory Company*, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Main Branch.

⁴² Margaret Gurland, interview with author, 1995, Fresno, CA

Beverage Control. The *Board's* opening meeting, held in a crowded City Hall Council Chamber, was on 28 June 1934; one of their first orders was to adopt and impose a 250 limit on the number of licenses. This allowed for all 222 holders of the State license to get a *Board* license. JOSEPH was at that first meeting and he received city liquor license C-255 pending submission of two affidavits: (1) the Federal tax stamp was paid for and (2) that monthly reports to the State Tax Department were made for all purchases and sales of liquor.⁴³

For a few years there were tables on the side porch for patrons. The 1934 city directory lists the *Dayton House* in the residential section under JOSEPH'S name while in 1935 the *Dayton House* appears in the business section under Beer, Wine and Liquor. In 1937 the side porch was enclosed to enlarge the downstairs living area.⁴⁴

Women were still not to be found frequenting bars so a LADIES ENTRANCE on the side allowed girlfriends and wives into a room behind the bar without the social stigma being attached to the woman for entering through the front door of a bar. It was still frowned on for a women (mostly by their husbands!) in the back to enter the bar itself so the men could enjoy themselves without the worry of a tap-on-the-shoulder from the



Missus. The listing remained the same over the years; as late as 1950 the directory lists ANNA SMITH as a widow of JOSEPH, at the *Dayton House* at 1237 South Broad Street.⁴⁵ Due to JOSEPH'S rheumatism, ANNA, her sons and son-in-laws, as well as her brother JOHN KUTARNIA frequently ran the bar. In 1936 the SMITH'S first appear in the telephone directory with the number TR3-2015.⁴⁶



Education

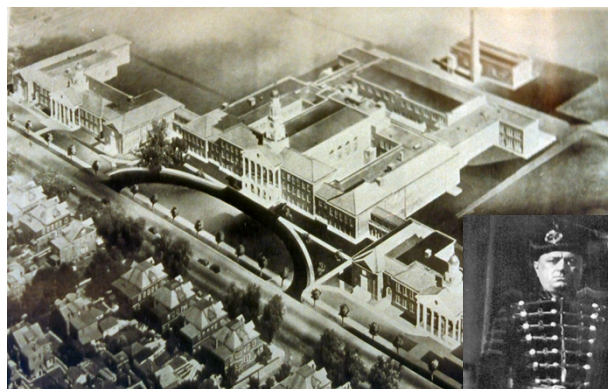
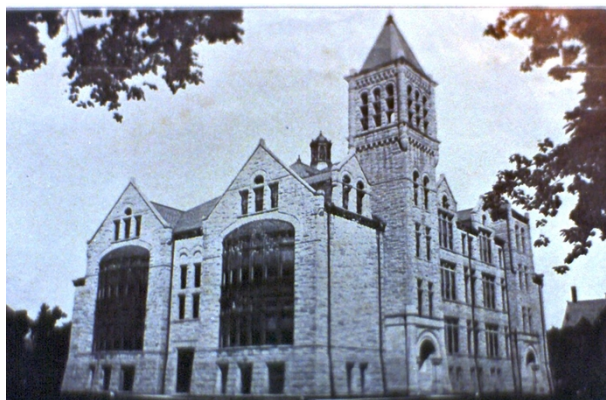
⁴³ "Saloonmen in Uproar Over Size of Beer," *Trenton Evening Times*, 28 June 1934, p 1, c 5 and p 16, c 1

⁴⁴ Building Permit Number 37890, 30 June 1937. (note 34)

⁴⁵ *Fitzgerald's Trenton & Mercer County Directory*; 1934: p.712; 1935: pp.722, 1007; 1938, p.733; 1950: p.722; Fitzgerald's Directory Company, 14 N. Warren St., Trenton, NJ; available at Trenton Public Library, Main Branch.

⁴⁶ *NJ Bell Telephone Directory*, 1936, p.56; available at Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ.

The children attended Franklin Elementary School, on William Street near Liberty Street; Trenton Junior High School No. 4 (above left & right) a couple blocks away on Dayton Street; and Trenton Central High School. In 1928, the high school was the 27 year old second one at Chestnut Avenue and Tyler Street. The third high school was still under construction on Chambers Street between Hamilton and Greenwood Avenues and would open in 1930. (below)



Through the years, the SMITH's were close to MICHAEL and LUCY BASSO. This proved to be an unfortunate friendship in some respects, as JOSEPH and ANNA were co-defendants in at least two lawsuits involving property that they had some financial interest in, along with the BASSOS. On 10 November 1933 a judgment was entered in the Court of Chancery against MICHAEL BASSO, MARIA LUCIA BASSO, Trenton Trust Company and JOSEPH SMITH, for a property at 425 Genesee Street. This single-family home was built in 1920 and was near Beatty Street was the BASSO home in the early 1930s. It was sold on 19 December 1933 at a Sheriff's sale to JOHN JESONSKI for \$100.00.⁴⁷ Another single-family row home at 334 Rusling Street was forfeited to the City of Trenton on 2 March 1937 for overdue taxes of \$388.11. There was a Chancery Court hearing on 16 February 1942 regarding this property and the Final Decree, dated 13 April 1942 lists MICHAEL BASSO, LUCY BASSO, ANNA SMITH, individual and as trustee for JOSEPH J. SMITH, and Trenton Trust Company as defendants responsible for \$738.96 due to the City of Trenton.⁴⁸

JOSEPH, seen in picture at right in uniform, was a member of the Hungarian-American pseudo-military *Order of Knights of Saint Stephen*. ISTVÁN I (c969 – 1038) is the acknowledged founder and first KING OF HUNGARY, in 1000 CE. Each group of *Knights* was affiliated with a Hungarian Catholic Church and assisted in many church activities as well as providing the parade with a nationalistic flare. August 20th is celebrated as Saint Stephen's Day in many places and remains a public holiday in Hungary. The Roman Catholic feast day was 2 September (16 August since 1969) but Trenton's Hungarian-American population celebrated with a parade and festival on 28 August, at least according to a Church member. The festival was held at *Saint*

⁴⁷ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 717, p. 374, 19 December 1933; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁴⁸ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 837, p. 22, 13 April 1942; and Mercer County Mortgages, vol. 633, p. 297; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

Stephen the King (Hungarian) Roman Catholic Church at 210 Genesee Street in the center of Trenton's Hungarian community. *Saint Stephen the King* opened in 1903 and was the main Hungarian National Church for Trenton.

ANNA was a member of *Saints Peter and Saint Paul Slavonic Roman Catholic Church* at 480 Second Street, just off of Cass Street. It opened in 1899 and was the first Slovak National Church in the area. The parish cemetery is on Cedar Lane. *Saint Michael's* at 1130 Brunswick Avenue, the 2nd Slovak church, opened in 1921. The building for *Saints Peter and Paul* was shuttered a few years ago when the congregation was amalgamated with two Polish churches – *Holy Cross* and *Saint Stanislaus* – to form *Divine Mercy Parish* in 2005. *Divine Mercy* uses the former *Holy Cross Church* at 201 Adeline Street.

In the 1940 Federal Census, taken in April, JOSEPH is a retail liquor proprietor, son MICHAEL is a wire mill salesman and MARGARET is a mail reader for the state unemployment compensation office.⁴⁹ JOSEPH died in Donnelly Memorial Hospital in Trenton just a few months after the census was taken. He was 58 when tuberculosis took his life at 1 am on the 5th of September, 1940. He is interred at *Saint Peter and Saint Paul Slavonic Roman Catholic Cemetery* on Cedar Lane in Trenton, NJ. The Verhovay Association paid the \$1,000.00 policy from 1924 on JOSEPH to ANNA just two weeks after his death.

The Trenton Board of Commissioner's granted a transfer of saloon license held by late JOSEPH J SMITH to his widow MRS. ANNA K SMITH, administratrix of his estate on 9 September 1940.⁵⁰ A little over a year later ALFRED E DRISCOLL, the State alcoholic beverage control commissioner suspended the liquor license for thirty days starting on 23 October after ANNA *pled guilty to pouring one brand of liquor into a differently-labeled bottle.*⁵¹

In early 1941 ANNA purchased a second \$1,000.00 life insurance policy on herself from Verhovay, perhaps using the insurance proceeds from JOSEPH's policy. On 12 March 1944, ANNA applied to the Trenton Lodge of the Greek Catholic Union to change the beneficiaries of her 1919 \$1,000.00 insurance policy issued in Forest City; it would be equally split between her 9 children.⁵² She applied for a Social Security number in 1952 giving her maiden name as GUTARNIA.⁵³ ANNA continued to operate the *Pub*, with her sons, until 1963. Just after midnight on Tuesday, 14 June 1955, KATHRYN spied a man making his way across the rooftops; she shouted for her brothers JOHN and VALENTINE, or "JACK" and "BILLY" – JACK must have been visiting from California and BILLY was tending bar – who took off after the suspicious man. The prowler dropped down to street level and sped away; police responded to a call and claim to have seen the man in the 1300 block of South Broad Street but failed to apprehend him. They described him as being 20 – 22 years old, 150 pounds and 6' 6" tall!⁵⁴ Over the years, winter storms had

⁴⁹ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 11th Ward, block 45, 18 April 1940, ED 27-89, sheet 7A, dwelling 133, lines 24-30.

⁵⁰ "Polish Falcons Get Bowling Right ... Commission Allows Saloon Change," *Trenton Evening Times*, 9 September 1940, p 2, c

⁵¹ "Liquor License Here Lifted for 30 Days," *Trenton Evening Times*, 17 October 1941, p 13, c 3

⁵² Greek Catholic Union (note 13)

⁵³ Application for Social Security Account Number, Anna K. SMITH, No. 146-26-5298, 1 February 1952, Social Security Administration, Office of Central Records Operation, Baltimore, MD. 21201.

⁵⁴ "Shot Misses, Prowler Flees From Rooftops," *Trenton Evening Times*, 14 June 1955, page 1, column 2.

broken the large plate glass windows in the front of the *Pub* a number of times.⁵⁵ In June 1956, the building firm of Major & Temple replaced the large plate glass windows and doorway with a regular door and two small windows making the once light-filled place quite dark.⁵⁶ Modern Ironworks added fire escapes in August 1959 and some minor work was done in April 1961 by Major & Temple.^{57 58}

BILLY ran the bar in the late 1950's with his brother-in-law PETE GURLAND. On 28 May 1959 the Trenton Board of Commissioner's approved the transfer of alcoholic beverage license #C-255 from ANNA K. SMITH to VAL. W. SMITH and PETER P. GURLAND as partners in the *Dayton House*.⁵⁹ When BILLY decided to leave the bar, ANNA decided to sell it. The building and lot at 1237 South Broad Street was sold on 20 May 1963 to FRANK and CLARAMAE KOVACS of Levittown, PA. A \$20,000 mortgage from the Old Borough Savings & Loan covered part of the cost, while a second mortgage to ANNA SMITH for \$6,000 plus 6% interest was recorded in July.⁶⁰ Perhaps the second mortgage was an "added" cost to transfer the liquor license. The Tax Assessor Department's records list the sale price as \$28,000.⁶¹ The selling of the business caused MARGARET to feel slighted as her Mom refused to turn over the business to any daughter but would turn it over to a son-in-law, say PETE, if, and only if, they were a co-owner a son, say BILLY. There may have even been litigation or the threat of litigation used to try and get some money for the perceived financial loss. While BILLY paid no mind to his sister, ANNA may have paid off her daughter to keep the peace

ANNA continued to live above the *Pub* in the front apartment that MARGARET and PETE had built. In the early 1970s she fractured a hip which disabled her and necessitated her moving out. She died at 6 pm on 1 November 1978 from a myocardial infarction. She is also buried in *Saints Peter and Saint Paul Slavonic Roman Catholic Cemetery* in Trenton, NJ. The grave marker gives her year of birth as 1890; the suspect explanation is that it was cheaper to carve 1890 than 1889 and in 1940, it was imperative to keep costs low. Whatever the reason, ANNA was a year younger! The Verhovay Association, by now the William Penn Association, paid the claims for the two (1924 and 1941) \$1,000.00 policies on 4 December 1978 to the sole beneficiary, KATHRYN V. SPYCH. The status of the 1919 GCU policy has not yet been determined; nor has the existence of the NSS policy.

Joseph Arthur Smith
Joseph Ferreiro Smith
Joseph John Smith
Joseph Smith
Joyce Elaine Smith

In 1991 JOSEPH'S
children and grandchildren

hor, May 2004, North Palm Beach, FL.

1956 (note 34). Notice published in *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 17 June 1956,



⁵⁷ *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 9 August 1959, part 3, p 12, c 7

⁵⁸ *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 30 April 1961, part 3, p 8, c 3

⁵⁹ *Trenton Evening Times*, 30 June 1959, page 21, column 5.

⁶⁰ Mercer County Deeds, vol. 1661, p. 79, 20 May 1963; Mercer County Mortgages, vol. 1334, p. 141; Mercer County Mortgages, vol. 1341, p. 447, 26 May 1963; Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

⁶¹ See note 34.

had his name placed on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor at the Ellis Island Immigration Station National Park to honor their ancestor and support the rehabilitation of the place that he first set foot on in this country.

The *Pub* remained open under FRANK KOVACS until he died around 2005. Attempts to sell the place for \$250,000 failed (gee, I wonder why?) and it was foreclosed on; the bank is asking \$49,000 for the dilapidated place! The structure was sold and the new owner started an extensive remodeling project which saw an expansion of the 3rd-floor attic and a different floor plan being adopted for the 1st floor, including the bar, at least.

Issue:

- 1) MARY SMITH: baptized at *Saint Anthony's Church* in Forest City on 9 September 1906, her sponsors were JOSEPH JURKO and MARY GALUSZKA.⁶² MARY had to quit school at 14 years old, just after moving to West Virginia, and learn to drive so she could pick up her brothers and sisters from school. During one of the family trips to Trenton she entered, and won, a Verhovay Association pageant for the title Miss Hungarian Trenton while not even living in the state! In West Virginia it was uncommon for a woman of 20 to not be married and her anxious father wanted her to marry a Hungarian. MARY had been secretly "dating" her father's favorite boarder, GEORGE FINNIE (born 1897-99). She wanted to marry "the Scotchman" but her father was against the marriage. Finding out she was pregnant, MARY and GEORGE eloped and were married in Charlestown, WV on 28 May 1927. They lived near GEORGE's sister in Albany, NY, first at 63 Second Street in 1929. In 1936 GEORGE was at 64 Second Street while MARY was a cafeteria worker, living at 138 Dove Street. They are again together in 1940 at the latter address.⁶³ For a time this alienated MARY from her father but they reconciled, especially with the birth of their first grandchild. In 1964 they moved to Florida. GEORGE passed away 26 December 1971. He was cremated and his ashes were removed to Scotland. MARY returned to *Saints Peter and Paul Church* in Trenton to marry WILLIAM NEVILLE on Saint Valentine's Day in 1976 (14 February). They returned to Clearwater, FL to live together until WILLIAM died on 22 November 1985. He was cremated and MARY placed his ashes in the plot of her parents in Trenton. MARY moved near her daughter in Placentia, CA for several years before passing away on 4 January 1997. She was cremated and her ashes were buried next to those of her second husband in *Saints Peter and Paul's Cemetery* in Trenton, N.J. in July 2000.
 - a) MARGARET ELIZABETH VIRGINIA FINNIE: born 24 November 1927 (Albany, NY), married DOUGLAS STANLEY POWELL on 13 October 1951; died 16 January 2019, Placentia, CA.
 - i) DEBRA JEANNE POWELL: born 7 September 1952, Elmhurst, NY (on Long Island), married 11 April 1986 MALCOLM BROWN in Kona, HI; they lived in San Francisco, CA and Anchorage, AK. MALCOLM died from a heart attack in January 2006.
 - ii) VICTORIA LEE POWELL: born 4 October 1955, Glendale, Los Angeles County, CA,

⁶² St. Anthony Church records, on deposit at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 612 Hudson St., Forest City, PA. 18421.

⁶³ 1940 US Census, NY, Albany; (and) Albany City Directories, 1929, 1936.

married on 20 August 1972 to JOHN LEE JACKSON, JUNIOR; lived in San Dimas, CA; VICTORIA died 10 December 2014.

(1) MICHAEL LEE JACKSON: born 31 March 1973, married 1 July 1994 LYNNE LAMERE in Riverside, CA.

(a) JOHN LEE JACKSON, III: born 24 October 1995, Loma Linda, CA.

(b) AMANDA DENISE JACKSON: born 14 May 1996.

(2) JAMES MICHAEL JACKSON: born 11 October 1988.

iii) RANDALL GEORGE POWELL: born 19 January 1957, died 23 January 1957, Glendale, Los Angeles Co, CA. Interred *San Fernando Mission Cemetery*, San Fernando, CA.⁶⁴



- 2) JOSEPH SMITH, JUNIOR: was baptized at *Saint Anthony's Church* on 14 October 1907, having the same sponsors as MARY – JOSEPH JURKO and MARY GALUSZKA.⁶⁵ He graduated Mann High School in 1924 followed by Marshall College in Huntington, WV first, then Newark Technical School, now New Jersey Institute of Technology, in Newark, NJ where he lived with the RADACK sisters, friends of the KUTARNIA family. In 1935 he was living in Elizabeth, NJ. He married HELEN (PAT) VECSEY (born 17 June 1910, died 21 January 1971), daughter of JOSEPH and JULIANNA KANOCZ HORVATH VECSEY, on 12 June 1937.

VECSEY FAMILY: JOSEPH VECSEY, living at 119 Cass Street, 44, died 25 September 1917 and was buried in *Riverview Cemetery* in Trenton (his obituary gave his name as JOSEPH VECHY). At this address in 1920 is JULIA VECSEY, 37, a widow working in a cigar factory. Living with her are a daughter SUSAN, 18 and son LEWIS, 16 – both born in Connecticut. (LEWIS was born 17 May 1904 and died 11 October 1971 in Miami, Dade County, Florida). Also in the house are children HELEN, 10; PAUL, 8; ELIZABETH, 5 (born 2 December 1914) and STEPHEN, 3 years, 4 months, all born in New Jersey.⁶⁶ JOSEPH and JULIA VECSEY are not found in the 1910 census.

HELEN and JOSEPH had two wedding ceremonies in South Trenton: the first in the rectory of *Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church* on Second Street just off of Cass and the second ceremony in the *Hungarian Reformed Church* at Grand Avenue and Beatty Street. HELEN worked in a cigar factory like her mother and studied tailoring at the Trenton School of Industrial Arts. They lived at 119 Cass Street in Trenton, NJ in the house that HELEN grew up in. In 1940 Joseph was an engineer for United Construction and Pat was a secretary for the American Federation of Labor. Her younger brother STEPHEN VECSEY was living with them at the time.⁶⁷ JOSEPH worked for many years as a research chemist for John A. Roebling & Sons and later at Hercules Powder Company of Rocky Hill, NJ. He was an

⁶⁴ San Fernando Mission Cemetery, section E, lot 33, grave 10.

⁶⁵ St. Anthony Church records (note 62)

⁶⁶ 1920 US Census, Mercer County, NJ; Trenton, ED 71, p. 49.

⁶⁷ 1940 US Census, Mercer County, NJ; Trenton, ED 27-47, p 13A.

avid bowler, being active in Mercer County Holy Name League, NJ State Traveling League and the Groveville League. He was a trustee at *Saints Peter and Paul Church*. JOSEPH died on 21 February 1974 and is buried with his wife in *Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery*, Trenton.

- a) EILEEN PATRICIA SMITH: born 20 March 1941, Graduate of University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; chemistry professor at Trenton State College, Trenton, NJ
 - b) KATHLEEN PATRICIA SMITH: born 24 April 1943, holds two Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, in biology and chemistry, and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from Temple University Medical School; married JOHN WRIGHT in 1965, divorced 1974; married second ERICH BAUMEISTER on 14 July 1985, Boling Brook, IL, divorced. She lived with ERICH in Nidderau, near Frankfurt, Germany for many years before returning to the Chicago area in 2005.
- 3) ANNIE SMITH: her birth date is questionable. Her baptismal record at *Saint Anthony's Church*, which is dated 11 April 1909, gives her birth date as 9 April 1909 while her Social Security application lists 2 April 1909. Sponsors were JOSEPH JURKO and ANNA VARHOLA (*MOST LIKELY* ANNA WARHOLA who married JOSEPH SAXON on 16 May 1910).⁶⁸ She married FRANK TURNER (born 16 December 1904, England) on 19 June 1938 at *Saints Peter and Paul Church*. They lived in Trenton at 280 Homecrest Avenue. FRANK was a tool & die maker for Thermoid, Inc. of Trenton. They belonged to the *Church of the Incarnation* where ANNIE was involved in the Altar Rosary Society. She was also a member of the Pennington Road Fire Company Auxiliary and several American Legion Posts. FRANK died on the 30th of January, 1966 when he suffered a heart attack while shoveling snow from the sidewalk in front of their home. ANNIE died on 4 January 1984 and is buried with her husband in Section T in *Saint Mary's Cemetery*, Trenton.⁶⁹
- a) JANICE LOUISE TURNER: born 20 February 1941 (Trenton, NJ), married 14 October 1961 to ROBERT PETERSON (born 23 June 1939); living in Corbin City, NJ
 - i) DEBORAH MARIE PETERSON: born 27 January 1966, Trenton, married 13 July 1993 KENNETH R. CADE, live in Steelmantown, Cape May County, NJ.
 - (1) MICHAEL TYLER CADE: born 17 May 1993 (Atlantic City, NJ)
 - (2) CHARLES MATTHEW CADE: born 27 March 1995 (Somers Point, NJ)
 - ii) ROBERT JEROME PETERSON: born 21 October 1968, Trenton; married JENNIFER ASHLEY in Georgia on 29 November 2002. They live in New York where ROBERT works in a border patrol office.
 - b) LANA MARIE TURNER: born 12 June 1945, married ALEXANDER THOMAS GRAY (born 2 November 1944) on 5 October 1968; living in Lawrenceville, NJ.
 - i) CHRISTOPHER THOMAS GRAY: born 12 November 1971, Trenton; studying at Penn State University.
 - ii) LYNN MARIE GRAY: born 4 April 1973, Trenton; married CURTIS PORCELLO on 20 April 1996, divorced March 2003; works for DelVal Agriculture, a division of Hoffman-LaRouche Pharmaceuticals in Doylestown, PA.

⁶⁸ St. Anthony Church records (note 62); Marriage #65 in Returns of Susquehanna County

⁶⁹ St. Mary's Cemetery, Trenton, NJ, section 15F, lot 31.

iii) STEPHANIE LAUREN GRAY: born 16 February 1979, Trenton; married FRANK BOSLEY in 2004. Divorced? Married KEVIN ZORN.

(1) LUCAS GRAY ZORN: born 3 May 2017

- 4) HELEN SMITH: her birth certificate gives her birth date as 14 February 1912, while her baptismal record gives 16 February, and her Social Security application lists 15 February. *HELENA* was baptized at *Holy Trinity Slovak Roman Catholic Church* on Prospect Street in Simpson, PA on 18 February 1912, the daughter of *JOSEPHUS SMIT of Hossulaz, Europe* and *ANNA KUTERNIA of Forest City*.⁷⁰ Sponsors were MICHAEL LAZAR and MARIA BABAKA. The Church closed in 2004 and was consolidated with *Saint Michael the Archangel* (Polish) Church at 46 Midland Street in Simpson. In 2010 the *Holy Trinity Church* building was razed however Holy Trinity Hall remains open at 37 Prospect Street. In July 2011 *Saint Michael's* was consolidated with *Saint Rose of Lima* (Slovenian) Church at 6 North Church Street in Carbondale. HELEN apparently celebrated her birthday on Saint Valentine's Day each year. HELEN graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1931, the final class to graduate from "old" Trenton High at the intersection of Tyler and Chestnut Streets, next to Junior 2. She was a sports lover playing on both the hockey and basketball teams as well as remembered as "The female champion pugilist."⁷¹ She married OMER DUPRAS (born 7 August 1913, MI) of French-Canadian descent; he was the son of OMER and MARY DUPRAS, 326 Ellis Avenue. They married on 15 August 1937 at *Saints Peter & Paul Church*. REVEREND MICHAEL J CHURAK officiated; Maid-of-honor was her sister MARGARET, best-man was her brother MICHAEL; and a reception was held at her home. *Bride wore a white satin gown with tulle veil and carried a prayer book draped with orange blossoms; maid of honor wore a pale blue chiffon frock and matching picture hat and carried pink roses*.⁷² They first lived with OMER's parents where they are found in 1940, OMER working in a machine shop and HELEN as a bookkeeper.⁷³ Besides his parents, two of OMER's older sisters lived there as well – ANTOINETTE (born 1910) and GERTIE (GERTRUDE, born 1907). They lived Trenton with OMER occasionally tending bar at the Dayton House before moving to Coral Gables, Florida where OMER worked for an airline company. HELEN passed away 25 September 1977. OMER lived in Boynton Beach, FL with daughter JACKIE until his death 12



⁷⁰ Helen Smith, Certificate of Birth, File number 0170240-12, Lackawanna Co, PA Vital Records, Harrisburg, PA; and Holy Trinity R.C. Church Baptismal Register, in possession of St. Michael's R.C. Church, 46 Midland St., Simpson, Pa. 18407.

⁷¹ *The Bobashela* 1931: The Yearbook of Trenton Central High School, Volume 7

⁷² "Miss Smith Weds Owen (sic) J Dupras," *Sunday Times Advertiser*, 15 August 1937, part 2, p 4, c 6

⁷³ 1940 US Census, Mercer County, NJ; Trenton, ED 27-56, p 5A-B

September 1993.

- a) ROMAYNE DUPRAS: born 6 June 1940 (Trenton, NJ), married BENJAMIN DAVIS (born 25 March 1937) on 25 July 1964 in Coconut Grove, FL; live in Miami, FL.
 - i) KIMBERLY MISHAUN DAVIS: born 23 May 1967, married 25 July 1992, to STUART DELISSER, live in Coconut Grove, FL
 - (1) KATIE DELISSER
 - ii) CHRISTINA DIANE DAVIS: born 5 August 1971, married 10 June 1995, DENNIS FINE, Coconut Grove, FL
- b) BARBARA DUPRAS: born 19 March 1942 (Trenton, NJ), married 8 June 1963 RICHARD MATUSZEWSKI (born 9 June 1939); live in Washington Crossing, PA.
- c) COLETTE DUPRAS: born 9 October 1944 (Trenton, NJ), married 1 July 1967 JAMES F. WHELAN (born 25 June 1944) at Saint Timothy Roman Catholic Church, 5400 Southwest 102nd Avenue, Miami, Florida; Miami, FL.
 - i) DAWN MARIE WHELAN: born 16 March 1968 (Miami, FL), lived in Manhattan Beach, CA circa 2000; married JOHN CRAWFORD, living in NY.
 - (1) MADELINE RILEY CRAWFORD: born May 23, 2004 in New York City
 - (a) KYLE CRAWFORD
 - ii) JAMES PATRICK "JP" WHELAN: born 29 October 1970 (29 Palms, Ca.), married CHELLI ?, NC.
 - (1) LINDSEY DAWN WHELAN: born 1 June 2004, Hickory, NC
 - (2) MAGGIE ISABEL WHELAN: born 1 June 2004, Hickory, NC
 - iii) Kevin FRANCIS WHELAN: born 23 October 1976 (Miami, FL), student at Florida International University, Miami. Engaged to ZENIA to be married June 2005.
- d) JEANNETTE "JACKIE" ELIZABETH DUPRAS: born 6 July 1948 (Trenton, NJ); lived in Miami, FL for many years before moving to Boynton Beach to care for her father. After his death she bought her own house in that town where she now resides.



- 5) MICHAEL SMITH: his birth record filed on 6 November 1913 lists the 1st of November as his date of birth, though MICHAEL celebrated it on November 3rd.⁷⁴ It was thought at one time that the 3rd was the date of his baptism but this is not the case either. He was baptized at *Saint Michael's Slovak Roman Catholic Church* in Jessup on 9 November 1913.⁷⁵ The Church register lists his date of birth as 3 November 1913. His sponsors were MICHAEL LAZAR (same as for HELEN) and MARY WARHOLA. That Church closed in July 2010 and the congregation was merged with *Queen of Angels Parish* at 605 Church Street in Jessup. The building still serves a religious purpose: it



⁷⁴ Michael Smith, Certificate of Birth, Lackawanna County, File number 186521-13; Pe

⁷⁵ St. Michael's R.C. Church Baptismal Register, 822 First Ave., Jessup, PA. 18434.

is a “worship site” for the Parish. During the depression years he worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps. As a “volunteer,” a large part of his pay went to his parents and he spent his time helping to protect the nation’s natural resources as well as receiving an education during “leisure” time. He enjoyed going to the dances at *Holy Angel’s Catholic Church* where he first met MARY MISLAN (born 16 October 1914) his future wife. The MISLAN family lived on Virginia Avenue, not far from the Dayton House Pub. Their engagement was announced on 15 June 1941.⁷⁶ They were married on the 5th of July in 1941 at *Saints Peter and Paul’s Catholic Church*. They honeymooned in Hyannis, MA. They first lived on Virginia

Avenue in Trenton and then moved to 9 Meredith Road in suburban Hamilton Township during October 1942. He was in the US Army Air Force during World War II, stationed in Tennessee. MARY worked in the office of General Motors Corporation during the war and for the Selective Service System until retiring in 1976. She received the Meritorious Service Award from PRESIDENT GERALD FORD in 1974. After the war, MIKE worked as a machinist at the DeLaval Company. The family was affiliated *Saint Raphael’s Catholic Church*. MICHAEL died 22 April 1976 and is buried in *Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery*, Trenton. MARY moved to Chandler, AZ in 1986, spending much of her time visiting with her children. As her health deteriorated she moved to Seattle, WA in 2004 to be near two of her children. She passed away at the home of her daughter TERRI in Seattle on 9 May 2005. She was buried next to her husband after church services at *Saint Raphael’s Church* on 24 May 2005.

- a) JOAN DIANE SMITH: born 5 October 1942 (Trenton, NJ), “DIANE” married WILLIAM FRANCIS FINNEGAN on 11 July 1964 in Trenton, NJ; they moved to California shortly thereafter, followed by New York and Tennessee and currently (2004) reside in Anchorage, AK.
 - i) SHANNON MARYANNE FINNEGAN: born 7 April 1965 (Newport Beach, CA), attorney, married MICHAEL BURCHMORE on 14 October 1995; they live in San Francisco, CA.
 - (1) TESS BURCHMORE
 - (2) TARA BURCHMORE
 - ii) CYNTHIA DIANE FINNEGAN: born 19 January 1967 (Camp LeJeune, CA).

MISLAN FAMILY

JOHN MISLAN: born 1888 in the Czech portion of the Hungarian Empire, immigrated to the US in 1905. In 1909-10 he married SUSANNE, a woman 8 years younger who was of Czech and Hungarian descent born in NJ. By 1930 they owned a home at 106 Virginia Avenue in Trenton’s 4th ward. JOHN worked in a wire mill while SUSAN worked in a factory making golf bags.

- 1) ANNA MISLAN: born 1913, stenographer in 1930.
- 2) MARY MISLAN: born 16 October 1914, graduated Trenton Central High School in 1932; married MICHAEL J. SMITH on 5 July 1941.
- 3) MARGARET MISLAN: born 1918.
- 4) JOHN MISLAN: born 1922; living in Toledo, OH as of May 2005.
- 5) JOSEPH MISLAN: born December 1925; lived in Lawrenceville, NJ; died May 2015.

(1930 US Census, Mercer County, NJ; Trenton, 4th ward, block 553; 8 April 1930; ED 51, sheet 7A, lines 31-37; roll 1364, p 129)

⁷⁶*Sunday Times Advertiser*, 15 June 1941, part 2, p 4 c 5

- iii) KARA SUZANNE FINNEGAN: born 1 April 1968 (Port Jefferson, NY), Masters in education, San Francisco, CA.
 - iv) WILLIAM MICHAEL FINNEGAN: born 12 August 1977 (Memphis, TN)
 - b) DAVID MICHAEL SMITH: born 11 September 1946 (Trenton, NJ), married LENELLE HOWE (born 18 June 1944, Terre Haute, Indiana) on 25 November 1972; DAVID works as Marketing Strategy Manager for Mazda and Jaguar and LENELLE works as a magazine editor, they lived in Michigan before settling in Los Altos, CA.
 - i) KATHERINE ALLISON SMITH: born 31 January 1979 (Pontiac, MI), sports interests include cross-country skiing and she plays the bassoon.
 - ii) DAVID MICHAEL SMITH, JUNIOR: born 16 September 1982 (Pontiac, MI), school sports include cross-country, swimming and track.
 - c) THERESA (TERRI) MARIE SMITH: born 31 January 1955 (Trenton, NJ); TERRI is a nurse in Seattle, WA.
 - d) MICHAEL JOSEPH SMITH, JUNIOR: born 22 August 1956 (Trenton, NJ), married (SHARON) CAMILLE HARBECK on 10 July 1982 in Birmingham, MI.; lived in Edmonds, WA and Winter Park, FL. MICHAEL is an attorney.
 - i) DYLAN MOORE SMITH: born 14 August 1988 (Washington, DC)
 - ii) ALEXANDRA CAMILLE SMITH: born 25 October 1992 (Edmonds, WA)
- [NOTE: there are 5 great-grandchildren as of May 2005]

- 6) MARGARET SMITH: recalls dating JOHNNY HATFIELD (of the infamous HATFIELD-MCCOY feud) while in WV After their break up, MARGARET's father had to have a restraining order placed against JOHNNY so he would leave MARGARET alone. That this may be true is supported by the move of WILLIAM ANDERSON "DEVIL ANSE" HATFIELD (1839 - 1921) from Tug Valley on the Kentucky border. In the 1890s he settled near the town of Sarah Ann on Main Island Creek, a tributary flowing into the Guyandotte River at Logan in Logan County. Buffalo Creek flows into the same river a few miles away at Man with descendants still found in the area.

She graduated Trenton Central High School in 1935. She played both speedball and basketball while in high school.⁷⁷ She had several boyfriends in Trenton, as she states: *One for Monday, one for Tuesday, one for Wednesday and one for Thursday. Friday was my own day and then I would alternate on Saturday and Sunday.* Her favorite was PETER PAUL GURLAVICH (also known as PETER JURGLELEWICZ). He was born on 29 April 1913 in Mount Carmel, PA. His parents, DUFFY and BERTHA GURLAVICH, moved to Trenton where PETE is found with his older sister MARTHA and older brother HENRY at 67 Houghton Avenue in 1930. PETE would save up his money from managing the A & P Grocery store in Trenton and take MARGARET out to Sunday breakfast to a restaurant that had linen napkins and tablecloths; nothing was too good for his intended wife. Their engagement announcement appeared in local newspapers on 8 June 1941.⁷⁸ A bridal shower with fifty-nine guests was held in early August at the Pub.⁷⁹ They were married on the 16th of August 1941 by

⁷⁷ The Bobashela 1935, The Yearbook of Trenton Central High School, Volume 11.

⁷⁸ "Miss Smith To Wed August 16," *Sunday Times Advertiser*, 8 June 1941, part 2, p 2, c 3

REVEREND MICHAEL J CHURAK at *Saints Peter and Paul Church*. Their wedding announcement states that MARGARET “was given away by her brother JOSEPH, maid-of-honor was sister KATHRYN. Ushers were brothers WILLIAM and JACK; best-man was JACK MAGENNIS. Reception at Fisher’s Tea Room, honeymoon thru southern states, Miami Beach and Havana, Cuba; will reside at 1237 S Broad.”⁸⁰ MARGARET recalls being on Biscayne Boulevard and telling PETE that she wanted them to retire to Florida. While there they took a plane to Havana and stayed in a hotel just across from the Capitol building. The first night was marred by political unrest at the Capitol of President General FULGENCIO BATTISTA. MARGARET and PETE were forced to spend their first day there inside the hotel as a curfew had been imposed. Order was restored and they spent two more nights traveling around Havana and hitting all the hot spots for dancing including one where XAVIER CUGOT and his band played, including his then-wife ABBE LANE. His ever-present Chihuahuas’ were also in attendance! Within a few months, PRESIDENT BATTISTA would lose the election to GRAN SAN MARTIN and would retire in exile to Daytona Beach, FL until his return to power through a military coup in 1952.

Upon their return to Trenton, they began to remodel the upstairs of the pub, creating a two bedroom apartment over the bar out of the former parlor. The (Trenton) *Sunday Times Advertiser* of 26 September 1943 carried the following:

*PETER GURLAVICH entered Navy on 26 November 1942 and is currently at naval supply depot in Trinidad. MARGARET sworn in as a private in the US Marine Corps Women’s Reserve on 31 August 1943. Her basic training was at Camp Lejeune, New River, NC and she worked in Washington, DC; graduate of THS and Rider College, employed by NJ State Unemployment Compensation Commission. She has three brothers in the service: LIEUTENANT JOHN J SMITH, bombardier in army air force, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) MICHAEL J SMITH, ordnance division and PRIVATE V WILLIAM SMITH, signal corps. PETER, son of BERTHA, 103 Houghton Avenue, received boot training at Bainbridge, MD; promoted to second-class petty officer on 1 September; was manager of A&P; has one brother, PRIVATE HENRY GURLAVICH, in army.*⁸¹

XAVIER CUGOT

Born 1 January 1900 in Gerona, Spain, the family emigrated to Havana, Cuba around 1905. At just 12 years old, XAVIER became first violinist of the *Teatro Nacional* in Havana. XAVIER moved to the US in 1918 where he became the house-band leader at the Waldorf Astoria in New York in the Roaring 20s. He popularized the Latin sound, and dance, known as the *rumba*.

His lead singer during the 50s was his third wife, **ABBE LANE**. She was born in Brooklyn, NY on 14 December 1932. Considered by many a great singer, ABBE would go on to star in several movies and television shows in the 1960s and 70s, after divorcing XAVIER.

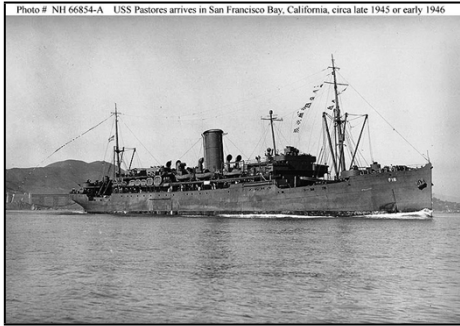
XAVIER groomed another “bombshell” singer for his band, and his home, and **CHARO** became wife number four.

After suffering a debilitating stroke in 1971 he retired and moved to Barcelona, Spain, where he died on 27 October 1990

⁷⁹ “Honored at Shower,” *Trenton Evening Times*, 5 August 1941, p 4, c 2

⁸⁰ “Announce Marriage of Margaret Smith,” *Sunday Times Advertiser*, 14 Sept 1941, part 2, p 2, col 4.

MARGARET was attached to the Eastern Procurement Division Headquarters at 1700 Sansom Street, a couple blocks northeast of Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia by October 1943. She was stationed at the Second Headquarters Battalion at



Henderson Hall across the street from the southern edge of Arlington



National Cemetery in Virginia (right⁸²) between January 1944 and April 1945 after which she was stationed in Bethesda, Maryland. Henderson Hall remains in use as a USMC facility. She was promoted to sergeant before she left the Marines on 7 August 1945 and PETE was a Petty Officer First Class in the US Navy from 24 November 1943 to 29 September 1945. He sailed from Norfolk, Virginia on 23 March 1943 aboard the *USS Pastores* (AF-16) and was aboard the *USS Houston* (CL-81) on 2 February 1944 from Trinidad.

They decided to change their surname to GURLAND, filing for a change in the Court of Common Pleas on 1 March 1946.⁸³

They lived in Trenton most of their lives. MARGARET worked for the NJ State Department of Transportation and was responsible for verifying the amounts paid to subcontractors actually went to the workers. MARGARET and PETE retired to Lantana, FL where they lived until 1995 when they relocated to Fresno, CA. PETE died there 12 July 1995, inurnment in *Arlington Cemetery*, VA. Both MARGARET and PETE were honored for their military service in the Court of Honor at Fresno (CA) City College in 1996. MARGARET married second ANGELO FALCO, of Fresno in August 2001. ANGELO died there in June 2002. MARGARET died 18 January 2012 in Fresno, CA. She was cremated and entombed with her first husband.

- a) PAUL WAYNE GURLAND: born 4 May 1946 (Trenton, NJ), married on 22 March 1977 to DIANN KAILEY (born 22 November 1950), Trenton, NJ, divorced; PAUL works for the NJ Department of Transportation and lives in Yardville, NJ at his parents former home.
- b) GERMAYNE GURLAND: born 20 December 1948 (Trenton, NJ), "GERRE," an accomplished swimmer, she was qualifying to be on the US Olympic Swim Team for the 1968 games when she decided to marry, on 27 December 1969 to ROBERT PIVAK (Trenton), and gave up competing; they divorced in 1972. She lived in NJ, Oklahoma and California over the next seven years. Her second marriage, on 5 May 1979 to DOUGLAS

⁸¹ "In Armed Forces Joins Husband in Military Service," *Sunday Times Advertiser*, 26 Sept 1943, part 4, p 2, c 7

⁸² "USMC women's reserve at Henderson Hall (Arlington, VA)". Licensed under Public Domain, Wikipedia.

⁸³ *Trenton Evening Times*, 28 January 1946, p 11, c 4

JONES took place in Fresno, CA where they lived until 2008. They retired to Santa Cruz, CA and Shaver Lake, CA in Fresno County in 2008 and moved to Boulder, Colorado in 2012.

i) EMILY ALYSSA JONES: born 26 February 1981 (Fresno, CA) "EM." Married ? BOYD and lives in Denver, CO.

(1) AUTUMN BOYD: born December 2010, Denver, CO

ii) ELIOT DOUGLAS GURLAND-JONES: born 28 February 1983 (Fresno, CA) "EL."

c) FAITH GURLAND: born 8 October 1951 (Trenton, NJ); FAITH married (1) JOSEPH ADAMEK on 12 June 1976 in Trenton; divorced on 19 March 1979. She married (2) STEPHEN JOHN CHARLES (born San Diego), on 30 August 1992 in Clovis, Fresno County, CA; divorced. FAITH received an M.A. in Special Education from California State University at Fresno on 24 May 1997. FAITH stayed in Fresno until 2017 after which she moved back to Trenton.

- 7) JOHN SMITH:⁸⁴ "JACK," graduated Trenton Central High School in 1938. While in school he was on the basketball team. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army Air Force's 15th Air Force, 461st Bomb Group, 764th Bomb Squadron in WW II. He was stationed in southern Italy and made 47 airborne missions (according to *Sweet Pea* PILOT ED TRENNER) into German territory, including destroying the Hermann Goering bomb works near Budapest. He was the bombardier on the B-24 "Super Fortress" bomber *Sweet Pea* (#18). The ship was heavily damaged during a mission on 25 July 1944 to Linz, Austria but managed to make it back to Toretto Airfield (Italy) and landed without flaps, using parachutes as brakes and both tires shot out. Ironically, JOHN never liked to fly! His air force training was at Hammer Field near Fresno, CA where he met his future wife, MARYJANE LAWLESS (born 18 March 1926). Their engagement announced in the *Trenton Sunday Times* on 10 September 1944:

*MISS MARY JANE LAWLESS, sister of LIEUTENANT AR LAWLESS of Fresno, now stationed in FL, to LIEUTENANT JOHN J SMITH, son of ANNA SMITH. MARY JANE graduated from Fresno High School and the Portland (OR) Business School. JACK attended college at Wake Forest, NC and graduated from the Bombardier School, Big Spring, TX. He has recently completed 50 missions and is scheduled to return home soon with the wedding soon to follow.*⁸⁵

They were married on 16 September 1944 at *Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church* in Trenton, NJ. Best Man was the navigator from the *Sweet Pea*, AL MARKOVITCH. They lived in Trenton until 1949. JOHN



⁸⁴ John Smith, Certificate of Birth, File number 101392-20, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania Vital Records, Harrisburg, PA.

⁸⁵ "Engaged to Wed Lt. John Smith," *Trenton Sunday Times Advertiser*, 10 September 1944, part 2, c 1

wanted to be an educator graduating from Trenton State Teacher's College, now the College of New Jersey at Trenton. The prospects in the Fresno area were bright and MARYJANE missed her family so they moved to the area, first to Selma by the end of 1949 then Fresno a few years later. In 1995 JACK was honored for his military service in the Court of Honor at Fresno City College with special mention of his 32 years as administrator and teacher in Fresno County Unified School District. JACK died in Fresno on 1 October 2009 with MARYJANE remaining in Fresno until she died of congestive heart failure on 8 February 2011.⁸⁶ Both buried at *Belmont Memorial Park*.

- a) BEVERLEE JILL SMITH: born 10 October 1945 (Trenton, NJ), "JILL" married 14 February 1981 to DON HARMON (born 14 July 1947); Fresno, CA. JILL has been a counselor since 1985 at Fresno City College and DON teaches industrial arts/art at Bullard High School. DON has a son from a previous marriage.
 - i) DAVID GARY HARMON: born 10 July 1976 (Fresno, CA). Studied mechanical engineering at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA in the mid-1990s.
 - (1) OLIVIA ROSE HARMON
 - (2) STEPHANI HARMON: born 11 November 2014
- b) JUDITH ANN SMITH: born 6 November 1946 (Trenton, NJ); "JUDY" married 20 December 1975 to DAVID HAMILTON (born 14 June 1944), divorced; lives in Fresno, CA.
 - i) TIMOTHY DAVID HAMILTON: born 29 April 1976
 - (1) SERENA HAMILTON
 - (2) EVELYN HAMILTON
 - ii) KIMBERLY ANN HAMILTON : born 14 May 1979
- c) BONNIE JOEL SMITH: born 14 October 1947 (Trenton, NJ); married 6 April 1968 to HENRY (HANK) NEILL ROGERS (born 12 November 1943); Spartanburg, SC
 - i) SEAN RICHARD ROGERS: born. 23 September 1969, Philippine Islands; married 10 October 1992 to GEENA MARIE GREEN (born 13 November 1969), in Spartanburg, SC.
 - (1) ETHAN ROGERS
 - (2) ELI ROGERS
 - ii) SHANE WILLIAM ROGERS: born 27 July 1973, Spartanburg, SC; married 13 May 1995 to MONICA DAWN TRUESDALE (b.14 Sept. 1973), Spartanburg, SC.
 - (1) KAYLIN ROGERS
 - (2) KENDYL ROGERS
- d) BETSY JOAN SMITH: born 26 June 1951 (Selma, CA); married JIM TOOTHAKER (born 31 March 1947) on 29 May 1992 in San Diego, San Diego County, CA. They live in the Kensington section of San Diego.
- e) JOHN SCOTT SMITH: born 9 April 1953 (Selma, CA) "SCOTTY" married CYNTHIA K. GRETCH in August 1985; divorced in early 1990s; lives in Fresno with daughters.
 - i) KELLY KRYSTLE SMITH: born 6 November 1986 (Fresno, CA)
 - ii) LINDSAY MARIE SMITH: born 21 February 1989 (Fresno, CA)

⁸⁶ MaryJane Smith, obituary; *Fresno Bee*, 13 February 2011.

- 8) KATHRYN VIRGINIA SMITH: was baptized by REVEREND JEREMIAH R. DAVERN on 2 August 1924 at *Saint Michael's Roman Catholic Church* in Lundale, WV. Sponsors of her baptism were JOSEPH and MARY REBICH.⁸⁷ Her First Holy Communion was on 13 May 1934, and Confirmation on 5 December 1935, both received at *Saints Peter and Paul Church* in Trenton. She attended Franklin Elementary, Trenton's Junior 4 and Trenton Central High School, graduating in 1942. KATHRYN worked for the Catholic Archdiocese of Trenton for many years. She married BRONISLAW "BRUNO" LEONARD SPYCH, JUNIOR (born 17 June 1920), son of BRONISLAW and ROSALIE SPYCH of 517 North Olden Avenue, near the Clinton Avenue intersection in East Trenton, where they lived and ran a cobbler shop.⁸⁸ BRUNO had an older sister HELEN, a twin brother WILLIAM and a younger brother EDWARD (Trenton High Class of '41). BRUNO graduated Trenton Central High School in 1938) on 10 July 1965. BRUNO was in the 349th Infantry Regiment of the US Army during WW II. He worked for DeLaval Turbine Company for 45 years. He died at home on 15 February 2003. Interred in *North Crosswicks Cemetery*, Crosswicks, NJ. KATHRYN died in Bordentown, NJ on 24 November 2010, interred with husband. An obituary was published in *The (Trenton) Times* on 30 November 2010.
- a) DAVID MICHAEL SPYCH: born 26 April 1968 (Trenton, NJ), graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology, NY; lives in Atlanta, GA; married 2 July 2006 CHRISTINA ? in Napa Valley, CA.
- i) ELLA KATHRYN SPYCH: born 5 December 2009.
- 9) VALENTINE WILLIAM SMITH:⁸⁹ was named after his uncle, BALINT SCHMID, the name being the Hungarian equivalent of VALENTINE. BALINT had been named for his own grandfather; resulting in a continuance of the Eastern European tradition of honoring your forebears, with VALENTINE carrying the name of his great-grandfather. He was called "BILLY" throughout his early life, though "VAL" would become more popular in later years. This sometimes led to confusion such as when his sister would say to his 2nd wife "BILLY did such-and-such" and she had no clue who this "BILLY" person was! He was baptized by REVEREND JEREMIAH R. DAVERN on 2 August 1924 at *Saint Michael's Roman Catholic Church* in Lundale, WV where his sponsors were ANDREW and MARY MENKO.⁹⁰ His First Holy Communion was on 13 May 1934, and Confirmation on 5 December 1935, both received at *Saints Peter and Paul Church* in Trenton. He attended Franklin Elementary School, Trenton Junior High School #4 and Trenton Central High School. While in high school he was a member of the Historical Society, Hall Patrol, Academic Clinician, and Service Corps.⁹¹ He spent the summers of 1940 and 1941 working in a food stand on the boardwalk in Seaside Heights, NJ.⁹² He

⁸⁷ St. Michael's Church records, on deposit at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 561 Main St., Logan, WV 25601.

⁸⁸ 1940 US Census, Mercer County, NJ; Trenton, ED 27-30.

⁸⁹ Valentine Smith, Certificate of Live Birth, No. 147-41390; WV Dep't. of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, Charleston, WV

⁹⁰ St. Michael's Church records (note 76)

⁹¹ *The Bobashela* 1942: The Yearbook of Trenton Central High School, Volume 18.

⁹² Valentine W. Smith, conversation with author, 25 May 2004, Juno Beach, FL.



graduated from high school in June 1942. Upon graduation he started working for Fleetwings



Aircraft in Bristol, PA; followed shortly by the Eastern Aircraft division of General Motors Corporation in Trenton. As the Avenger torpedo bombers rolled off the retooled assembly line, they would be taxied to Skillman (Mercer County) Airport for test flights. The first Avenger built by GM flew there on 11 November 1942. There, working under the supervision of United States Navy Inspectors, he and four subordinates, inspected airplanes coming off the assembly line. His education did not lag either for he completed two training courses as a Radio Technician in 1943, one in April and the second in August, at Rutgers College Extension in Trenton. His college record states that he was employed as an inspector for the United States Navy. As for sports, he was an avid roller skater and was on a Trenton team for a while; he earned the nickname “*Dart*” for his prowess in that sport; he was an avid tennis player and bowler which he taught to all of his children.

He enlisted in the United States Army on 14 December 1942 at Camden and entered into active service on 4 September 1943 less than a month after finishing at Rutgers. Basic training was done at Camp Crowder in Joplin, MO. He returned to New Jersey in November 1943 to attend the Signal Corps School at Fort Monmouth for fourteen weeks, achieving the designation Central Office Repairman. He was assigned to Company B of the 3119th Signal Service Battalion, landing at Camp Beale in Pittsburg, California during March 1944. He left for the South Pacific on 5 April 1944, arriving 15 days later, serving in New Caledonia, Fiji and Tinian. He was a teletype mechanic becoming

Technician, 4th Class. On 20 January 1945 he qualified to

operate a carbine and a couple of photographs of Valentine show him holding one.

The entire B Company was assigned to, and comprised, the 3910th Signal Service Company when it was activated during February 1945. On 14 March 1945 the 3910th sailed

North Airfield, Tinian



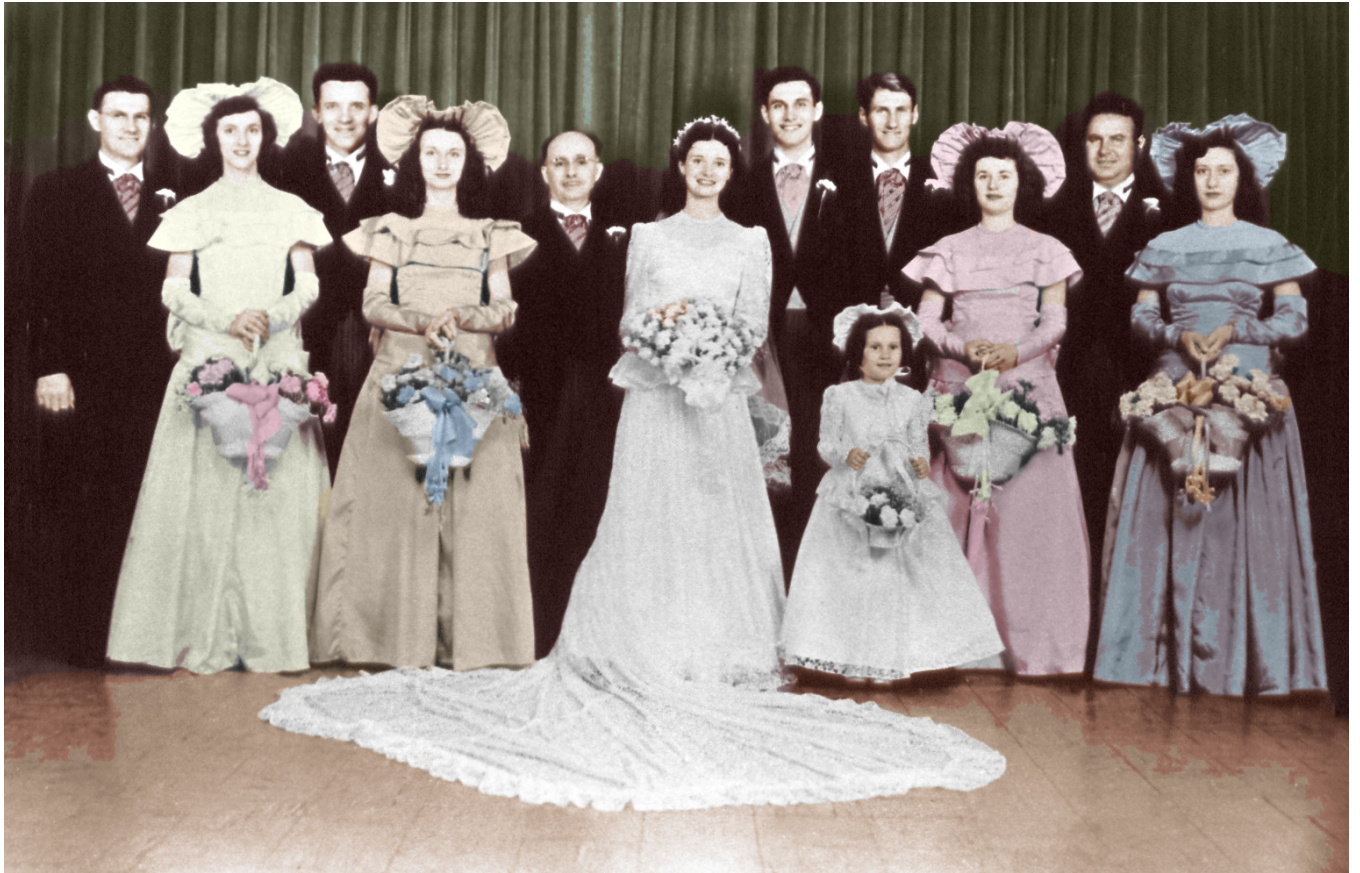
Tinian was where the *Enola Gay* took off from. Several hours before dawn on 6 August 1945 the B-29 lifted off the ground carrying the 9,700-pound bomb that would devastate Hiroshima, some 1,700 miles away, at 8:15 am. The 3910th was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for unspecified outstanding performance between 30 March and 3 October 1945. It is thought the activity or activities performed may have been done in connection with the *Enola Gay*. The 3910th had been a topic of discussion within the United States War Department since mid-1943.

In 1998 VALENTINE'S WWII service was honored by being entered in the Registry of Remembrances of the National World War II Monument. That monument was completed and opened to the public in Washington, DC in May 2004. A more detailed account of his military service can be found in the 2012 book *The First World War, The Sequel* by this author.



⁹⁴ Discharges of Military Personnel, vol. 16, p.178, Mercer County Court House, Trenton, NJ.

After the war he returned to Trenton where he worked at the Dayton House before attending Trenton Junior College majoring in electrical engineering. He met his future wife in the summer of 1946 when his friend, JOHN NABINGER, asked him to double-date with DOROTHY and MARIE MATELENA. While sitting on the living room couch, ALBERTA came up from the basement where she had been washing the family dog. Shortly thereafter VALENTINE asked her out on a date, despite her initial disheveled and damp appearance.⁹⁵ ALBERTA (born 4 February 1929, Trenton) was the daughter of ALBERT JOSEPH MATELENA and DOROTHY RUTH SOUTHARD. They were engaged in the autumn of 1947 and married on 19 June 1948. Their life story is continued in a separate chapter.



⁹⁵ Valentine W. Smith, conversation with author, July 1995, Fresno, CA.

Husband's Name: **JÁNOS SCHMID (JOHN SMITH)**

Born: 15 July 1855 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Married: 15 October 1877 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Died: 15 May 1905 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46
Father: BÁLINT SCHMID (25 June 1812 – 14 April 1856)
Mother: BORBÁLA MARTZI (21 May 1810 – 10 September 1876)

Wife's Name: **ANNA UNTENER**

Born: 15 November 1856 Nagy-Toronya, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Died: 30 September 1896 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46
Father: JÁNOS UNTENER (1794-2 April 1856)
Mother: ANNA TAJEM (1810-?)

Name:	Date of birth:	Death:	Place of birth:
1) MÁRIA SCHMID	3 February 1879	1882	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
2) JÓSZEF JÁNOS SCHMID	6 January 1883		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
3) MÁRIA SCHMID	7 March 1885	1886	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
4) MÁRIA SCHMID	10 October 1887	1887	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
5) ANNA SCHMID	9 March 1889	1889	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
6) JÁNOS SCHMID, II	6 June 1890		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
7) ANNA SCHMID	4 October 1892		Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén ?

The spelling of the surname as "*SCHMID*" has been chosen as this is the most common form of spelling encountered in the records reviewed. Other spellings include "*SMID*" and "*SCHMIDT*." Since the end of the First World War the once-separate counties of Borsod, Abauj and Zemplén have been joined but only a small part of the original county remains in Hungary, most of it is in Slovakia.



They were married by KÁPLÁN JÁNOS SANDOR or SANDZ at the *Templomnak Jézus Szíve (Church of Jesus' Heart)* in neighboring Kis-Bonyácska; the ceremony was witnessed by JAKAB KAJEL and JÓSZEF UNTENER. They lived in the small village of Hosszú-Láz, 3 miles north of Sátoraljaújhely their entire lives. JÁNOS' occupation is noted as a *public servant* in records prior to 1885 and as a farmer in most of the records of later dates.

Their first child MÁRIA was baptized 6 February 1879 by KÁPLÁN JÁNOS SANDOR, with sponsors being MIHÁLY KOMENDAS and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. At this time JÁNOS is listed as a *gazda* or farmer. Their first daughter MÁRIA lived just over three years, dying on 22 February 1882 of typhus; she was buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető* that same day. Their second

daughter, another MÁRIA, was baptized the day she was born with Godparents being MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. A new online index to Hungarian Roman Catholic Baptismal Registers has become available.¹ In this resource, a daughter named MARIA is listed as being born on 2 October 1884 and baptized shortly thereafter which is indicative of the short comings of this resource – it is not possible to give birth on the date given as it was followed by another birth 5 months later! Their second daughter to be named MÁRIA was born on 7 March 1885 and lived only a year and a half, dying on 4 September 1886 of smallpox; she was buried the following day in the same cemetery. MÁRIA #3, their third daughter, lived only one day dying of *weakness*. She was baptized the day she was born by KÁPLÁN MIHÁLY JÓSEF who officiated at the funeral mass the following day. Her Godparents were MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK. Perhaps hoping to change their luck with daughters, they changed names, the fourth was named ANNA. She had the same priest and the same Godparents as MARIA #2 and #3. But ANNA lived only three weeks, dying on 28 March 1889. She was buried two days later with the same priest officiating. All the children that died young were buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető*. In 1890, their 6th child, a son named JÁNOS was born; he would be the 2nd of their children to live into old age. A fifth daughter, a second ANNA, was born in 1892. The microfilm of the baptismal register entry has the father's name and the mother's given name inadvertently blocked out however the event is confirmed through other records.² The maiden name of the mother was UNTENER. The Godparents were MIHÁLY HUSZOVSKY and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK, the same as for some of JÁNOS and ANNA's other children. It is not known how long she lived.

ANNA died in 1896 and was buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető*, now called *Széphalomi temető*. Her death certificate gives her age as 39 years, which would place her year of birth in 1856/7. Her mother is listed as ANNA TAEM.

JÁNOS remarried five months later; on 21 February 1897 he married MÁRIA NAGYICZKI. MÁRIA was born 10 September 1873 in Kis-Toronya, a small town northeast of Hosszú-Láz; she belonged to the Greek Catholic Church. Her parents were MIKLÓS NAGYICZKI and MÁRIA GOMBOS. They were married by PÉTER CSEHY. Witnesses were ANDREJ GOMBOS and JÁNOS BOGDA, both of Kis-Toronya.³ They lived in Hosszú-Láz until 1905 where they had two of their own children:

Issue:	Date of birth:	Place of birth:
8) ERZSÉBET SCHMID	28 August 1897	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén
9) BÁLINT SCHMID	16 December 1898	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén

The birth record extract of ERZSÉBET SCHMID from the local branch of the State Archives gives her place of birth as Sátorajáújhely.

JÁNOS died in 1905, BÁLINT's future wife recalls his description as *when I was in grade school*.⁴ Shortly after his death, MÁRIA returned to Kis-Toronya with BÁLINT and ERZSÉBET to live with her family. The house she lived in is still there and continues to be occupied or maintained by NAGYICZKI family members.

¹ Hungarian Catholic Church Records, 1636 – 1895, FamilySearch.org.

² Hungarian Catholic Church records, 1636 – 1895; available online through Familysearch.org

³ Dr. Istvan Hogye, Zemplén Levéltára, Kossuth ter. 5, 3980 Sátorajáújhely, Correspondence to author dated 11 Sept. 1995.

⁴ Suzie (Szathmary) Smith, Conversation with author, 13 June 1992; Trenton, NJ.

MÁRIA is thought to have died around 1963. She was buried in *Széphalomi temető* and it is believed that the old *Hosszú-Láz temető* is the cemetery but there is a second *Széphalomi temető* just a short distance away which had previously been named *Kis-Banyácska temető* after its town; both villages were merged in 1940 to form Széphalom and both village cemeteries, rather oddly, were given the villages new name.

Kis-Toronya is a small town whose name means Small Tower (in opposition to nearby Nagy-Toronya, meaning Great Tower, and now named Veľke-Trňa). In the 19th century the village became the property of the noble SZÉCHY family. It is a few miles northeast of Hosszú-Láz on the east side of the Ronyva Creek. That creek became the border between Hungary and the Slovakia after the First World War. Kis-Toronya has since been renamed Malá-Trňa (which means the same thing, just in the Slovak language) and is in the *Trebišov okres* (district) of the *Košický kraj* (region).



Issue:

- 2) **JÓSZEF JÁNOS SCHMID:** born 6 January 1883; baptized in the Roman Catholic religion on 8 January 1883 by Associate Pastor STIPULA ANTAL; JÓSZEF's Godparents were MIHÁLY KOMMENDES and ERZSÉBET PETERCSAK, wife of JÁNOS UNTENER.⁵ In 1940 he reported having completed just four years of schooling.⁶

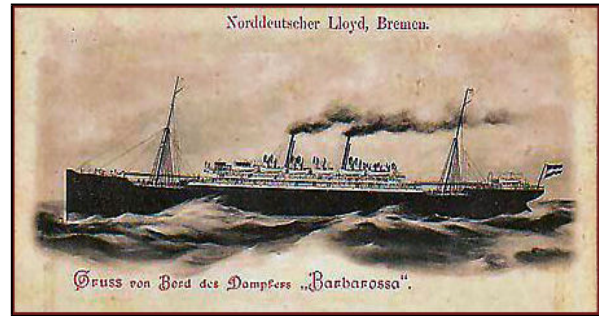


⁵ Photocopy of Baptismal Certificate of Jozsef Smid, dated 1919, in possession of author.

⁶ 1940 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ, Trenton, 11th Ward, block 45, 18 April 1940, ED 27-89, sheet 7A, dw 133, lines 24-30.

The 18 year old JÓSZEF traveled over 650 miles to board a ship in Bremen, Germany.

Bremerhaven, some thirty miles distant, is the actual port city for transatlantic voyages from Bremen. JÓSZEF was probably familiar with the advertisement that is reproduced below. He boarded the *S.S. Barbarossa* on 15 June 1901 and arrived at Ellis Island, New York on 26 June 1901. His last residence is given as Hosszú-Láz and native tongue as *Magyar*; we know it as Hungarian. He paid for his own passage and this was his first time to the United States. He declared \$12.00 when he arrived. His listed his destination as



Forest City, Pennsylvania where he was to meet his *uncle*, JÓSZEF MARCZI. As there was no *UNCLE JÓSZEF MARCZI* strictly speaking, he could be

referring to a distant cousin that was a descendant of KRISZTIÁN and EVA SCHMID through their daughter MARGITA who married JÓSZEF MARCZI and had a large family. Perusal of the 1900 US Census returns of Forest City reveal no one with that name though a large part of those returns are illegible. Likewise, the 1910 census returns sheds no light on the mysterious JÓSZEF

MARCZI. He could have also been advised to

have such a reply ready when asked that question. JÓSZEF had a traveling companion by the name of JÓSZEF CSAJKOVSAKI who was also going to Forest City. CSAJKOVSAKI was from Bereczki, Hungary and was going to Forest City where his brother-in-law PAUL VORCZKY lived.⁷

The *S.S. Barbarossa* was launched in 1896, one of the first of the new *Barbarossa-class* vessels that accommodated a large amount of cargo and an impressive number of passengers that were separate from the cargo areas, creating a much quieter ride. The cabins were located on a three-deck superstructure amidships. Built by *Blohm & Voss* of Hamburg for *Norddeutscher Lloyd Line* (*North German Lloyd Line*), it measured 526' by 60'. The ship was seized by the US during the First World War and renamed the *S.S. Mercury*.



JOSEPH JOHN SMITH briefly visited with his *AUNT MARY DUDIS ZAWOTSKI*, known as *Nenje*, a term of affection that translates as aunt, in Neshanic Station, Hillsborough Township, Somerset County, New Jersey. The exact relationship has yet to be determined but the DUDIS family can be found in records of Hosszú-Láz and Kis-Toronya. She was married to STANLEY ZAWOTSKI. *Nenje* had six

⁷ Index Card to Ship Passenger Lists Arriving New York 1901, Josef Smid, S5-15-340, and New York Immigration Passenger Lists, series T715, reel 208, Vol.339-340, 23 June 1901, Nat'l. Archives, p.171, No's.15-16.

children: two who died young; two sons, JOHN, (born in Neshanic, died 20 May 1982) married to SOPHIE LUPINSKI, and JOSEPH (born in Elizabeth, died 15 August 1976) who was a deaf-mute, neither son had children; and two daughters, BARBARA and HELEN. BARBARA married JOHN STALA (died 29 April 1986), and lives in Neshanic Station. STANLEY ZAWOTSKI died around 1945 and *Nenje* MARY in 1966. They are interred with their sons and son-in-law JOHN STALA in Sacred Heart Cemetery, section 13, plot 4, Hillsborough, NJ.

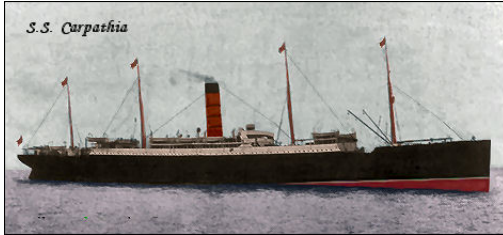
JOSEPH moved to Main Street, Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania to work in the northern anthracite coal mines. The 30+ year old lumber town of Pentecost had given way to the coal-driven town of Forest City by 1885 and demands for miners were flowing to Eastern Europe within five years. From just 50 people in 1865 to over 2,300 in 1890, the population kept soaring; by the time JOSEPH arrived there were over 4,300 residents! JOSEPH met ANNA

KUTARNYA in Forest City and they married there in 1905. The more than 6,000 of 1920 kept growing until the Great Depression hit. By the mid-1930s, mining had stopped completely, the population dwindled and the town closed down for over a decade. Their story continues in their own file.

- 6) JÁNOS SCHMID: born 6 June 1890. At the age of fifteen he headed to join his brother in America. He left the Kingdom of Hungary at the independent port city of Fiume, on 12 July 1905 and arrived in New York on the *S.S. Carpathia* on 30 July 1905. Fiume, synonymous with Rijeka, was much closer than Bremen at just over 350 miles from Hosszú-Láz. Now located in northern Croatia, Fiume competed with the Adriatic port city of Trieste in Austria.

JÁNOS boarded Cunard Line's *S.S. Carpathia* for the voyage; the ship would become famous in coming years for participated in the rescue of passengers from the *R.M.S. Titanic* disaster in 1912. Upon his arrival in this country, JOHN SMITH followed his older brother's path to Forest City, Pennsylvania with a stop in Neshanic Station where he lived with *Nenje* for awhile. He arrived just two weeks before his older brother's marriage on 15 August 1905. The marriage announcement appearing in the *Forest City Press* relates that JOHN is from *New Jersey*.

By April 1910 JOHN had moved to Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania and was living with his brother, JOSEPH. He married ANN MATURCHO. He filed a *Declaration of Intention* for naturalization on 20 May 1914 which gives the following information: he was a motorman, light complexion, gray eyes, 5'6", and 145 pounds and had light brown hair. He is living on Railroad Street in Forest City at this time. His *Petition for Naturalization*, dated 6 June 1916, lists his wife, ANNIE and daughter IRENE. At this time his occupation is a waiter. His *Oath of Allegiance* is dated 22 September 1916.⁸ On 4 November 1919 he was elected to the Forest City Borough Council.⁹ The 1920 census has him at 528 Higgins Alley, Forest



⁸ Declaration of Intention #7934 and Petition for Naturalization #6960 for John Smith; National Archives Branch, 9th & Market Sts., Rm. 1350, Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

City working as a machinist in a railroad shop.¹⁰ His native tongue is given as *Magyar*.

He lived in Forest City all his life and attained a level of prominence in that community. He was a member of Lodge #30 of the National Slovak Society and served as its treasurer in 1933.¹¹ He was on the Recreation Board of the city for some time and at times was the Board's President.¹² By 1930 he had built a business and residence at 609 Main Street in what is still known as the *Smith Building*.¹³ In 1930 it was a grocery store, by 1932 he had expanded:

JOHN SMITH *Phonographs, Records, Musical Instruments,
Confectionery and Cigars, Washing Machines,
Long Distance Moving Sedans for Hire, Forest City Taxi Service,
Phone 1153*

JOHN was the chairman for the *Silver Jubilee* of the Slovak Catholic Church of Saint Michael the Archangel (701 Delaware Street) on 29 September 1938. That same year finds him in business listings under both *Auto Services* and *Radios & Electronics* categories.¹⁴ He died in September 1962. JOHN and ANN are buried in *Sacred Heart Cemetery*.

- a) IRENE SMITH: born 6 February 1916 in Forest City.
- b) RUDOLPH SMITH: born May 1918
- c) DOROTHY SMITH: born c1921
- d) JOHN (JACKIE) SMITH: born c1924
 - i) JOHN SMITH: married MARGARET SPYHALSKI (great-granddaughter of JOSEPH and KATHRYN KUTARNIA), Vestal, NY
 - (1) MEG SMITH: born 1976
 - (2) KATIE SMITH: born 1984
- 8) ERZSÉBET SCHMID: born 28 August 1897. She moved with her mother and brother to Kis-Toroyna after her father died in 1905 and only completed 4 years of grade school. She emigrated to the United States in 1921 or 1922; became ELIZABETH SMITH and married MICHAEL SZABO in 1924 or 1925. MICHAEL was born in Hungary in 1890 and emigrated in 1912 to Trenton, New Jersey; his parents GEORGE, a watchman in a wire mill, and JENNIE SZABO, and sister HELEN lived at 833 South Clinton Street. In 1930 MICHAEL and ELIZABETH

⁹ John N. Obelenus. *Highlights of Forest City Borough History*. (*Forest City News*, 1938) p. 98.

¹⁰ 1920 US Census: Susquehanna County, Pa; Town of Forest City; E.D.67, Sht.1B, #82-85.

¹¹ John Smith to J.A. Gallo, Pittsburgh, Pa; Correspondence dated 21 May 1932. In records of "Paid insurance claims of the National Slovak Society, claim #31517 for Katarina Kutarnia, located at University of Minnesota, Immigration History Research Center, 826 Berry St. St. Paul, MN. 55114-1076; copy in author's possession.

¹² Diana Junior, Librarian, Forest City Library, 531 Main St., Forest City, Pa. 18421; Correspondence to author undated (ca. 15 August 1996).

¹³ 1930 US Census: Susquehanna County, PA; Forest City, ED 12, p 5A (and) 1940 US Census: Susquehanna County, PA; Forest City, ED 58-14, p 3A.

¹⁴ *supra*. Obelenus. *Forest City Borough History*. pp. 104 – 105.

lived at 827 South Clinton Street in Trenton's 9th ward and they were still there 10 years later; during that decade JENNIE SZABO had died. MICHAEL was working in the wire mills at that time.¹⁵ ELIZABETH died 19 July 1966.

- a) MICHAEL SZABO: born 1925; married DOROTHY ?, Trenton, New Jersey
 - i) MICHAEL SZABO
 - ii) DEBORAH SZABO
- b) GEORGE SZABO: born 1929; married PATSY CONCANNON, Trenton, New Jersey
 - i) MARGARET ANN SZABO
- 9) BÁLINT SCHMID: born 16 December 1898; moved with his mother and sister to Kis-Toroyna after his father died. There they lived two houses away from the SZATHMARY family, where his future wife SUZIE lived. He had a 6th grade education when emigrated to the United States in 1923. His half-brother JOHN SMITH paid for his passage and BÁLINT lived with JOHN for approximately two years in Forest City. He then moved to Trenton, New Jersey where he married SUZIE SZATHMARY circa 1927. SUZIE was born 18 February 1901 in Kis-Toroyna, Zemplén megye, Hungary (now Malá-Tŕňa, Slovakia). At the age of four her parents left her in the care of relatives and moved to Trenton; it would be sixteen years before she saw them again. SUZIE moved to Trenton in 1921.

BÁLINT and SUZIE lived at 423 Chestnut Street in Trenton in 1930 and BÁLINT worked as a machinist in a "rope shop."¹⁶ They were living at 423 Chestnut Street in 1940.¹⁷ BÁLINT died 6 December 1976. SUZIE lived in the Chestnut Street home until her later years when she moved in with her granddaughter JANICE MUSCHAL. She was in a nursing home after a fall left her bedridden. She died on 7 October 1999.

- a) JOHN SMITH: born August 1927; married EDNA ? 1950; lived in Lexington, Kentucky through 1995 at least. JOHN died February 2015.
 - i) RICHARD/JOHN SMITH: married 1964, lives in Kentucky.
 - ii) AILEEN SMITH: born 19 December 1959; married MARK OSTERHOUT 24 January 2010; lives in Fort Meyers, Florida. May have been married earlier as her daughters were born in the 1980s.
 - (1) RENEE HALUCHA.
 - (2) CHELSEA BENJAMIN
 - iii) DENISE SMITH: married ? COMBS in 1964.
 - (1) JENNIFER COMBS: born 20 September; married ? HARDWICK
 - (2) STEWART COMBS
 - (3) LAURA COMBS
- b) ELSIE SMITH: born 23 November 1928; married ROBERT MUSCHAL on 20 September 1952, Trenton.
 - i) JANICE MUSCHAL: married DAVID WINDSOR.
 - (1) AMY WINDSOR
- c) MARY SMITH: born 22 November 1929; married JERRY DEANGELO, Trenton.

¹⁵ 1930 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, 9th Ward, Block 368; ED 40, Sht 10A, Lines 18 -21, page 184 (*and*) 1940 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, ED 27-64, pp 7A & B.

¹⁶ 1930 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, 11th Ward, Block 474, 28 April 1930; ED 50, Sht 8A, Lines 20-24, p. 113.

¹⁷ 1940 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, City of Trenton, ED 97-24, p 2A.

Husband's Name: **BÁLINT SCHMID**

Baptized: 25 June 1812 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Married: 20 December 1837 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Died: 14 April 1856 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46

Father: KRISZTIÁN SCHMID (Died 21 April 1828)
Mother: EVA KLEIN (Born circa 1767, died 31 August 1844)

Wife's Name: **BORBÁLA MARTZI**

Baptized: 21 May 1810 Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Died: 10 September 1876 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Széphalomi temető*, Hosszú-Láz utca 46

Father: ÁDÁM MARTZI
Mother: MÁRIA KISS

Issue:	Baptized:	Where:
1) MÁRIA SCHMID	17 August 1838	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
2) ANNA SCHMID	28 February 1841	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
3) MIHÁLY SCHMID	25 January 1843	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
4) ANNA SCHMID	2 December 1845	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
5) ERZSÉBET SCHMID	6 October 1848	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
6) ERZSÉBET SCHMID	15 February 1851	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
7) KATARINA SCHMID	9 May 1852	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye
8) JÁNOS SCHMID	15 July 1855	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye

Many of the church registers are written in Latin, or at least an attempt at Latin, as the same person appears with varying spellings quite often such as our subject here who appears as *VALEUS* and *VALENNAX* in records. The names have been changed into their correct forms in Hungarian in most places; occasionally a given name has not been found in either Latin or Hungarian name lists and those have been left as written, e.g. *EMERIEUX*. The officiant at weddings is usually the local priest; in records the Latin titles *Capellanus* and *Parochus* have been used. The former is a priest while the latter is a parish priest but the choice of which title to use may be a personal one. The Hungarian *KÁPLÁN* (priest or chaplain) has been substituted for the Latin forms.

This area is now part of the tri-county area Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén. The name of the time translates as "long heat" and could refer to a local, as-yet-unidentified, hot spring. This tiny village has one street running north-south with about 20 houses on each side of the street. At the southern end of Hosszú-Láz *utca* (street) is the *temető* (cemetery) – it was named *Hosszú-Láz temető* until 1940 when it was changed to *Széphalomi temető*. The 40+ house have around 300 residents. Hosszú-Láz was merged with its neighbor Kis-Banyácska (little mine), an even smaller, but better known village, as it

was on the main road, in 1940 to become Széphalom (fair hill). Oddly the name of the former *Kis-Banyácska temető* was also changed to *Széphalomi temető*, so now there are two cemeteries bearing the same name about a mile apart. In 1981 the enlarged Széphalom and another neighboring village, Ruda-bányácska, were annexed to Sátoraljaújhely.

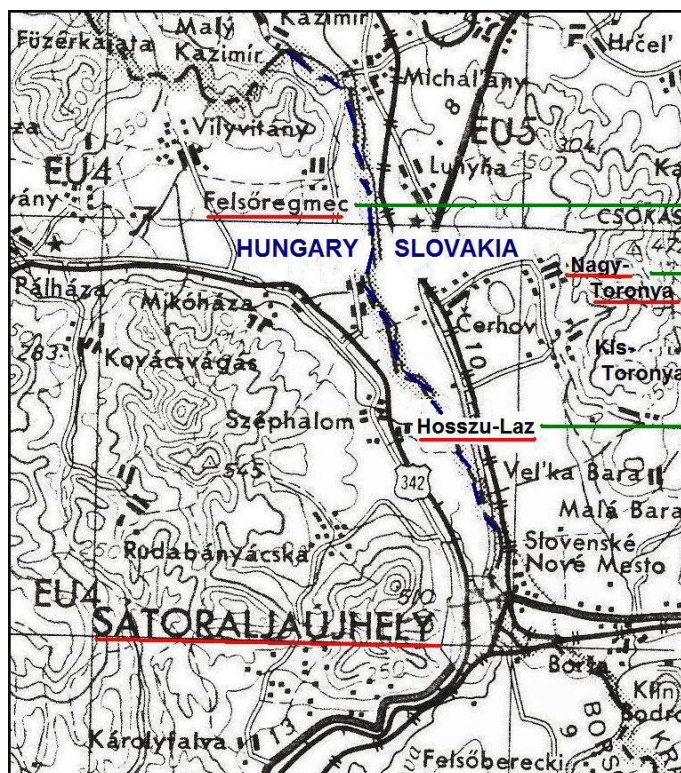
Their wedding was performed by KÁPLÁN ANTON KOVACH and witnesses were MIHÁLY PFIZTER and PÉTER SPRENCZ. They are both listed as Roman Catholic with BÁLINT in the Latin form of "VALEUS" 23 years-old and BORBÁLA being the 20 year-old "BARBARA."

BÁLINT was a farmer in this small village three miles north of Sátoraljaújhely. Early records show him as a *cotter* which is used when a person farms the land he lives for the owner instead of paying rent, with the majority of the crops grown belonging to the land owner. In 1848 the term *polgar* which means citizen or burgher was used to describe him; this was probably used for men that had a right to vote which, in turn, meant he was a land owner. He was identified as a *földmives* meaning peasant farmer in 1851. His success is noted with the 1852 appellation of *telkes* meaning landowner; no longer is he living and farming someone else's land.

But success can be short-lived and BÁLINT died of pneumonia just four years later when he was only 46. He was buried the day following his death in the cemetery at the end of the street now named Széphalomi temető. The death register entry is in Latin and his name appears as "VALENNAX SCHMID."

Household number 9 in Hosszú-Láz details this family in the 1869 census of Zemplén *megye* (county). First in the listing is Mrs. BÁLINT SMID, BORBÁLA MARCZI, a widowed housekeeper born in Hosszú-Láz in 1817.¹ Three of her children are listed JÁNOS and MIHÁLY SMID and MÁRIA SZENCSEK. JÁNOS is noted as "not at this address" as he is a blacksmith's apprentice a stone's throw away in Kis-Banyácska. MIHÁLY's wife ERSEBET TAKACZ is there as is their first two children MIHÁLY and JÓSEF. MÁRIA's husband MIHÁLY SZENCSEK and their two surviving children JÁNOS and MÁRIA bring the total number in the household to ten.

Their oldest daughter MÁRIA SZENCSEK died five years later and one can imagine BORBÁLA taking over the rearing of these grandchildren as they lived in the same house. Unfortunately, BORBÁLA died of "consumption" just two years later in 1876. *Consumption*



¹ 1869 Census of Hungary, Zemplén *megye*, Hoporty-Hruba, Hosszú-Láz, Entry No. 9.

is a descriptive term which refers to the visual effect of tuberculosis, whereby it appears the body is consumed. She was buried in *Hosszú-Láz temető* on 12 September 1876.

Issue:

- 1) MÁRIA SCHMID: married MIHÁLY SZENCSEK on 19 January 1858. He was born in 1837 in Hosszú-Láz. They were living with her mother in 1869. MIHÁLY was a farm laborer at that time. MÁRIA died 2 February 1874.
 - a) MÁRIA SZENCSEK: born 27 December 1860, baptized 28 December 1860 with sponsors being JÁNOS SPRENCZ and ANNA SAXON. Probably died young as she is not with the family during the 1869 census.
 - b) JULIÁNA SZENCSEK: born 1 February 1864, baptized 2 February 1864, sponsors were JÁNOS SPRENCZ and ANNA SAXON. Probably died young too as she is not with the family during the 1869 census.
 - c) JÁNOS SZENCSEK: born 1866
 - d) MÁRIA SZENCSEK: born 1868
- 2) ANNA SCHMID: (the first one) probably died young. Her Godparents were PÉTER SCHMIDT and MARGIT, his wife.
- 3) MIHÁLY SCHMID: baptismal certificate lists his sponsors as JÁNOS STEFAN and BORBÁLA CZAK. MIHÁLY married ERZSÉBET TAKACZ who was born in 1845 in Hosszú-Láz. They were also living with his mother in 1869 and MIHÁLY was also a farm laborer.
 - a) MIHÁLY SCHMID: born 1866
 - b) JÓSEF SCHMID: born 1869, died 22 August 1873.
 - c) MÁRIA SCHMID: born circa 1872, married GYULA VARGA on 29 October 1894.
 - d) JÓSEF SCHMID: born 13 February 1885; died 13 December 1886
- 4) ANNA SCHMID: (the second one) had JÁNOS STEFAN and BORBÁLA KERÉKES as sponsors for her baptism. She married JÁNOS MAJOROS, 23 years-old from Miskolc, on 21 November 1864. They are listed in the 1869 census with JÁNOS being a *garda* (farmer) and a *telkes* (small landholder). With them are JÁNOS MAJOROS, born 1802, most likely ANNA's father-in-law; and MÁRIA, born 1868. ANNA MAJOROS, "*wife of JÁNOS*" died 6 May 1887.
 - a) MÁRIA MAJOROS: born 19 February 1868, baptized on the same day sponsors being JÓSEF UNTENER and MÁRIA FUHRMANN. She married JÁNOS OZILLO, 24 years-old, son of ANDREJ OZILLO and MÁRIA HAJDU of Csamako on 4 February 1890.
 - b) ANNA MAJOROS: born 1 August 1870, baptismal sponsors JÓSEF UNTENER and MÁRIA FUHRMANN.
 - c) ERZSÉBET ANNA MAJOROS: born 6 November 1872, baptismal sponsors were the same as ANNA'S: JÓSEF UNTENER and MÁRIA FUHRMANN. She died of "weakness" on 7 June 1873.
 - d) JÁNOS MAJOROS: born 6 November 1872, baptismal sponsors JÓSEF TOKAC and

- MÁRIA Kael. He died 14 June 1876 of diphtheria.
- e) ERZSÉBET MAJOROS: born 10 August 1875, baptized 11 August, sponsors JÓSZEF TOKAC and MÁRIA Kael same as for JÁNOS.
 - f) JÁNOS MAJOROS: born 28 February 1878, baptized 3 March, sponsors JÁNOS SPRENCZ and ERZSÉBET GAZSI, wife of JÓSZEF UNTENER. He died 4 February 1882.
 - g) JULIÁNA MAJOROS: born 17 December 1880, baptized 19 December, sponsors JÁNOS SPRENCZ and ANNA TUHASZ. She died 17 January 1881.
 - h) JÓSZEF MAJOROS: born 18 March 1882, baptized 19 March, sponsors JÁNOS SPRENCZ and MÁRIA Kael, wife of JÁNOS FUHRMANN.
 - i) JULIÁNA MAJOROS: born 23 July 1884, baptized 27 July, sponsors were JÓSZEF UNTENER and MÁRIA Kael. She died 19 August 1886.
 - j) JULIÁNA MAJOROS: born 20 August 1886
- 5) ERZSÉBET SCHMID: her baptism was performed by KÁPLÁN G. HORVACH and Godparents were JÁNOS UNTENER and BORBÁLA KERÉKES. She died at just over a month old, on 10 November 1848.
- 6) ERZSÉBET SCHMID: (the second) died at 5 weeks old the following on 24 March 1851.
- 7) KATARINA SCHMID: was baptized by KÁPLÁN SANDOR FÜZESSERY on the same day she was born. Godparents were JÁNOS UNTENER and BORBÁLA KERÉKES, wife of GYÖRGY CZAK or CZAP.
- 8) JÁNOS SCHMID: was baptized the day he was born by KÁPLÁN ANTON JECENKO. The church register is in Latin, with his name as *JOANNES*, son of *VALENTINUS SCHMID* and *BARBARA MARCZY*. The sponsors were JÁNOS UNTENER and BORBÁLA KERÉKES, the same ones as for KATARINA and ERZSÉBET, the elder, born seven years earlier. JÁNOS was blacksmith's apprentice in neighboring Kis-Bonyácsak when he was 14 years old. He lived with the master blacksmith during part or all of this apprenticeship. Because he is listed at his mother's house in Hosszú-Láz during the 1869 census, he does not appear in the census records for Kis-Bonyácsak, otherwise the count would be wrong. He married ANNA UNTENER in 1877. Their story continues in a separate file.
-

Husband: **KRISZTIÁN SCHMID**

Baptized: 21 April 1769 Tállya, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Married: 10 February 1802 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Died: 21 April 1828 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Hosszú-Láz temeto (now Széphalom temeto)*
Father: *ANTAL SCHMID*
Mother: *ANNA MARIA MAKESIN*

Wife: **EVA KLEIN**

Born: circa 1767
Died: 31 August 1844 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
Buried: *Hosszú-Láz temeto (now Széphalom temeto)*

Issue:	Baptized:	Where:
1) ERZSÉBET SCHMID	30 April 1802	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén Megye
2) EMERIEUX SCHMID	30 March 1803	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
3) GYÖRGY SCHMID	unknown	
4) JÁNOS SCHMID	17 June 1804	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
5) PÉTER SCHMID	13 May 1806	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
6) MÁRIA SCHMID	1807 (born)	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
7) ANNA SCHMID	2 May 1808	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
8) MIHÁLY SCHMID	29 April 1810	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
9) BÁLINT SCHMID	25 June 1812	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
10) MARGITA SCHMID	19 April 1814	Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary
11) MÁRIA SCHMID?	After 1812	

EVA'S wedding to KRISZTIÁN was her second marriage. She had been married for seven years previously and had four children. On 15 April 1792 the "*maiden girl*" EVA KLEIN married the widower JAKAB VEILLER from Hosszú-Láz. Witnesses were JÁNOS SPRENTZ and BÁLINT LADRINGER. They had:

- a) JULIÁNA VEILLER: baptized 7 April 1793. Mother named ANNA KLEIN in record.
- b) ANNA-MÁRIA VEILLER: baptized 8 December 1794.
- c) GYÖRGY VEILLER: baptized 7 May 1796.
- d) PÉTER VEILLER: baptized 18 March 1797, godparents were PÉTER SPRENTZ and JULIA KLAIN (KLEIN?).

On 9 December 1799, JAKAB VEILLER, thirty years-old, died in Hosszú-Láz.

KRISZTIÁN and EVA undoubtedly knew each other for many years before marrying, after all, both husbands were from Hosszú-Láz and KRISZTIÁN and EVA both lived Hosszú-Láz at the time of their marriage. In 1869 there were only 42 houses in the village. KÁPLÁN BAURHUF officiated at the nuptials. If the ceremony was held in a church,

the closest one was less than a mile west in Kis-Banyácska. There are several other small churches in neighboring villages that could have been used or they could have been married at home. It is surprising the church registers do not state where the event took place but they do not. Their witnesses were GEVIG, SPRENCZ and MIHÁLY HIEBER.

Through the records obtained so far, EVA's surname remains the same, with the qualification that the feminine Latin form "KLEINEUM" was used in the marriage register. KRISZTIÁN's surname has many forms including SCHMID, SMID, SMIDT, SCHMITH and SCHMIDT. There is no way to determine a "correct" spelling, if there is such a thing.

Records for the town of Hosszú-Láz do not appear in the Roman Catholic Church registers for the diocese of Eger before the 1780's. These same registers do not reveal KRISZTIÁN or EVA being baptized in this diocese. The surnames are most certainly Germanic and perhaps it was their parents who first traveled to Hungary. A Krisztian Schmid is found in an index of Hungarian baptisms in Tállya, a small village a few miles southwest of Sátoraljaújhely.¹ This record from 1769 gives his parents names as found above; unfortunately a careful search of this index did not reveal any siblings.

On 30 April 1802 their first child ERZSÉBET, daughter of "CHRIST. SMIDT and EVA KLEIN" was baptized in *Ujhely*, an abbreviation for *Sátoraljaújhely*. Sponsors were ERZSÉBET KLEIN and JAKAB URGHÁZ(?). As there is no other couple of these names, it is safe to assume that they are the subject of this biographical sketch. It's unclear why ERZSÉBET was baptized in Ujhely as there were several small churches much closer to Hosszú-Láz, if that's where they were living. Perhaps EVA was staying with her relative ERZSÉBET, if we may assume that relationship.

KLEIN is not a widely-found surname in this area, so it is a puzzle as to who the following pertains to: EVA KLEIN, *and her husband* MIHÁLY VOLF, serve as godparents at the baptism of ERZSÉBET, daughter of ERASMUS MILLER and ERZSÉBET UNTENER on 27 November 1811 in Hosszú-Láz.

KRISZTIÁN is listed as a *colonus* (settler or farmer) in records. His death register entry does not give his age but it names his wife as EVA and gives the cause of death as *phthisis*, a condition usually referring to tuberculosis, but may be related to any general wasting disease. The *Landeskonskription 1828 Comitatus Ungvariensis* (1828 Hungarian Land Census) needs to be reviewed to find if KRISZTIÁN is to be found or if there is an entry for VIDUA SCHMID.

While it is not certain that KRISZTIÁN or EVA were buried in the *Hosszú-Láz temeto*, it is a logical conclusion. That cemetery is at the southern end of Hosszú-Láz *utca* and is one of two that now goes by the name of *Széphalom temeto*. The other is the former *Kis-Banyácska temeto* which became *Széphalom temeto* when the village of Kis-Banyácska changed its name to Széphalom.

Issue:

- 1) ERZSÉBET SCHMID: An ERZSÉBET SCHMID was godmother to MÁRIA TEDAS on 19 March 1840 in Hosszú-Láz.

¹ Hungarian Catholic Church Records, 1636 – 1895, FamilySearch.org; "Christianus Schmidts, 1769" (Latin) Christianus Schmidts, son of Antonius Schmidts and AñaMaria Makesin, baptisms, 1769.

- 2) EMERIEUX SCHMID: sponsors for baptism were EMERIEUX SPRENTZ and ELIZABETH UNTERNER. He died 3 December 1807 and was buried in Hosszú-Láz.
- 3) GYÖRGY SCHMID: No record of a baptism has been found. GYÖRGY *son of CHRISTIAN SCHMIT and EVA KLEIN* died on 26 January 1818. His age is given as 15 years. He appears to have died unexpectedly from a condition characterized by *opaque liquid* probably some sort of infection.
- 4) JÁNOS SCHMID: sponsors at baptism were listed in the register separately as HERMAN SPRENTZ and BORBÁLA SPRENTZ which may be their way of indicating that these two were not a married couple. A JÁNOS SCHMIDT was godfather at the baptism of GYÖRGY, son of MIHÁLY FEIZER and BORBÁLA SPRENTZ in Hosszú-Láz on 5 February 1823. JÁNOS evidently married ANNA VOLTESZ about this time, though no record has been found. JÁNOS, *husband of ANNA*, died on 23 November 1845 in Hosszú-Láz. Their children (see note following), with the date of their baptisms, all occurring in Hosszú-Láz despite the lack of a church unless noted, are:

a) THERESIA SCHMID:	14 November 1823	Baptized in Sátoraljaújhely.
b) MIHÁLY SCHMID:	27 December 1824	Died 29 August 1835.
c) ANNA SCHMID:	10 February 1828	Probably died before Aug. 1840
d) MÁRIA SCHMID:	04 September 1831	Probably died before May 1844
e) JÁNOS SCHMID:	06 November 1833	Died 2 November 1842.
f) MIHÁLY SCHMID:	02 September 1836	Probably died before May 1838
g) MIHÁLY SCHMID:	25 May 1838	
h) ANNA SCHMID:	30 August 1840	
i) ERZSÉBET SCHMID:	14 May 1843	Died 29 September 1847.
j) MÁRIA SCHMID:	15 August 1844	

Note that while most of the above information is quite clear, there are discrepancies. The father of THERESIA is listed as JÓSZEF; on 3 occasions the surname of his wife ANNA is given as ADANGI or ADOZO, which may actually be an expression in Latin. Three of the names come from an online index to Hungarian Baptismal Registers that has many transcription errors.

- 5) PÉTER SCHMID: baptismal sponsors were JÁNOS SPRENTZ and BORBÁLA SPRENTZ. He married ERZSÉBET CZAP (born circa 1801, Nagy- Banyácska). No children identified. PÉTER was a baptismal sponsor at several Hosszú-Láz baptisms throughout the 1830s and 1840s. He died in Hosszú-Láz on 21 August 1854. ERZSÉBET died the following year, on 19 January 1855. They were buried in the *Hosszú-Láz temeto* at the southern end of Hosszú-Láz *utca*. The cemetery is one of two that now goes by the name of *Széphalom temeto*.
- 6) MÁRIA SCHMID: no baptismal record found. She died, at 5 years old, on 13 December 1812.
- 7) ANNA SCHMID: baptismal sponsors were BÁLINT LAIDINER and ANNA MULLER, baptized

by KÁPLÁN KÁROLY PHILLANY.

- 8) MIHÁLY SCHMID: baptized by the parish priest ANTONIUS KOVACH with sponsors being MIHÁLY VOLSS and MARGITA RITTER. He married MÁRIA MANTANSEK on 22 May 1837 in Sátoraljaújhely. No children have been identified. MIHÁLY was the godfather for his nephew and niece, two of the children of JÓSZEF and MARGITA (SCHMID) MARCZI: JÓSZEF MARCZI on 23 March 1843 and ERZSÉBET MARCZI on 15 May 1850. MÁRIA SCHMID was godmother at the latter's baptism as well. MIHÁLY died 3 January 1857 in Hosszú-Láz and was buried in Sátoraljaújhely.
- 9) **BÁLINT SCHMID**: baptized by KÁPLÁN KÁROLY PHILLANY with sponsors being BÁLINT LEINDINGER, probably the same person as BÁLINT LADRINGER who was a witness at EVA's first wedding and BÁLINT LAIDINER who was godfather to older sister Anna four years earlier, and MARGITA SPRENCZ. He married **BORBÁLA MARTZI** on 20 December 1837. (continued in separate file)
- 10) MARGITA SCHMID: baptized by KÁPLÁN KÁROLY PHILLANY as was her brother BÁLINT two years earlier and her sister ANNA six years earlier. Godparents were being reused as well – older brother PÉTER's godfather JÁNOS SPRENCZ and older brother MIHÁLY's godmother MARGITA RITTER came back for an encore. MARGITA married JÓSZEF MARCZI on 17 September 1832 in Hosszú-Láz. Both were 19 years old. MARGITA died 21 September 1854. On her death record it gives her husband as GYÖRGY MARCZI. Children, with dates of baptism, are:
- a) MÁRIA MARCZI 15 May 1834
 - b) MÁRIA MARCZI 13 March 1836
 - c) MIHÁLY MARCZI 25 May 1838
 - d) ANNA MARCZI 30 August 1840
 - e) JÓSZEF MARCZI 23 March 1843
 - f) ERZSÉBET MARCZI 15 May 1850

From the 1812 Jewish census: KLEIN, ABRAHAM Sátoraljaújhely Ujhely

Husband's Name:

JÁNOS PÉTER UNTENER

Baptized: 25 August 1794

Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary

Married: 25 May 1854

Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary

Died: 2 April 1856

Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén Megye, Hungary

Buried: *Hosszú-Láz temető*

Father: JÓZSEF UNTENER

Mother: KATARINA PIRÓK

Wife's Name:

ANNA TAJEM

Born: 1810

Zemplén Megye, Hungary

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Issue:

Born:

Where:

1. **ANNA UNTENER**

15 November 1856 Nagy-Toronya, Zemplén Megye

They were married late in life: JÁNOS reported his age as 60 years old (giving us a 1794 year of birth) and ANNA as 44 (giving us 1810 for her year of birth) when they married; both were residents of Hosszú-Láz. Marriage registers at this time usually stated whether the bride or groom had been married previously or if either one was widowed; their entry is silent on both counts. In addition, a date of marriage was often noted next to baptismal register entries and, indeed, next to the entry for JÁNOS is found a notation stating was married on 29 June 1854; the actual date is believed to be 25 May 1854 but that could be the date the license to marry was issued. If there had been an earlier marriage, we would expect to find a similar notation referencing that event. Witnesses were MIHALY UNTENER and MIHALY ZAMBA. Relationships are not known but a MIHALY ZAMBA was married to a MARIA UNTENER. Perhaps MIHALY UNTENER was his brother and, if MARIA his sister, then MIHALY ZAMBA was a brother-in-law.

JÁNOS died on 2 April 1856. The death register gives his age as 68 years old though he was only 62. He was buried in the cemetery in Hosszú-Láz on 4 April 1856. A MIHALY UNTENER died 13 June 1856 but it is not known if this was the witness of their wedding, his brother, both or neither

ANNA was pregnant with their first and only child when her husband died. In the following November, ANNA was born in house number 17 in Nagy-Toronya. It is not known if ANNA, the mother, was there just for the birth or if she had moved there. The register is written in Latin with the father listed as JOAN UNTENER and mother as ANNA

TEIM. Oddly, there is no mention that JÁNOS was dead. Nagy-Toronya is a small town (1869 population was 760) whose name means Large or Great Tower. In the 19th century the approximately 1,200 acre village became the property of the noble SZÉCHY family. It is a few miles northeast of Hosszú-Láz on the east side of the Ronyva Creek. That creek became the border between Hungary and the Slovakia after the First World War. Nagy-Toronya has been renamed Veľke-Trňa (which means the same thing, just in the Slovak language) and is in the Trebišov okres (district) of the Košický kraj (region).

The 1869 census of Hosszú-Láz did not have any listings that could be identified as being ANNA (TAJEM) UNTENER.¹

Issue:

1. ANNA UNTENER: baptized by CAROLUS KOVACH on 16 November 1856. Sponsors were MIJALY UNTENER and JULIAN DAVID. She married JÁNOS SCHMID. (continued in separate file)

Discussion

Despite there being no mention of an earlier marriage for JÁNOS PÉTER UNTENER it does not preclude one. In the course of examining the civil and church registers in detail to see if such a marriage was recorded I was able to establish the existence of several families with a JÁNOS UNTENER as the husband but only three in the early 19th century and none in the late 18th; unfortunately I was able to discount each one as being our ancestor **JÁNOS PÉTER UNTENER**. Those families are:

JÁNOS UNTENER and MARIA JURKO: JÁNOS was baptized 5 April 1816. They had four known children between 1845 and 1855. JÁNOS, who is definitely identified as being the husband of MARIA JURKO, died on 19 April 1860.

JÁNOS UNTENER and MARIA DEMETER: JÁNOS was born around 1813. They had five children between 1842 and 1853. JÁNOS, who is definitely identified as being the husband of MARIA DEMETER, died in 1889.

JÁNOS UNTENER, JUNIOR and MARIA KOLOGYI: JÁNOS was born around 1822. They had five children between 1844 and 1855. JÁNOS, who is definitely identified as being the husband of MARIA KOLOGYI, died in on 24 December 1857.

¹ 1869 Census of Hungary, Zemplén Co., "Hoporty to Hrubá," Hosszu-Laz, Entry No. 9. (LDS film 722709)

Husband's Name: **JÓZSEF UNTENER**

Born: circa 1735

Married:

Died: 21 February 1821 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén megye, Hungary

Buried: *Hosszú-Láz temető*, utca Hosszú-Láz, Sátoraljaújhely

Wife's Name: **KATARINA PIRÓK**

Born: circa 1751

Died: 22 December 1815 Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén megye, Hungary

Buried: *Hosszú-Láz temető*, utca Hosszú-Láz, Sátoraljaújhely

Issue: Born/Bapt: Where:

1. **JÁNOS PÉTER UNTENER 25 August 1794** Hosszú-Láz, Zemplén megye, Hungary

KATARINA'S surname may have been PIRONG, however PIRÓK is clearly written on some documents. There appears only one entry in an online index to Roman Catholic Baptismal Registers for all of Zemplén megye and that occurred in Tállya, a small village several miles southwest of Sátoraljaújhely: CATHARINE PIRÓK, daughter of JOANNES PIRÓK and ANNA GONDÁS, was baptized on 14 October 1783; this, assuming an infant baptism, can not be our ancestor. At the time of her death she is listed as being 65 years old. JÓZSEF is listed as a settler or farmer on his death certificate. His age is given as 86 years old. Burials in the cemetery at Hosszú-Láz are an assumption on this writer's part; that information does not appear on the death certificates.

Issue:

1. JÁNOS PÉTER UNTENER: baptized by KÁPLÁN ANTON SCHON. The record is in Latin and gives his name as *JOANES PETRUS UNTENER*. Witnesses were JÁNOS SMALIKEN and ANGELINO LAWTENBONN. There is a notation next to his entry in the baptismal register that states he was married on 29 June 1854; the actual date is believed to be 25 May 1854 but that could be the date the license to marry was issued.

Notes:

The online index to baptisms is full of errors and, with this consideration, the following is recorded in case the Catherine appearing therein is our ancestor. ANNA GONDÁS, probably her mother, was baptized in Tállya on 17 September 1763. She was the daughter of JÁNOS GONDÁS and HELENA HALÁSZ. ANNA may have been a twin sister of EVA GONDÁS who was baptized in the same place on the same date with the same parents.

Husband's Name: **ÁDÁM MARTZI**

Born:
Married:
Died:
Buried:

Wife's Name: **MÁRIA KISS**

Baptized: 22 December 1773 Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary
Died:
Buried:
Father: VAVRINEC KISS
Mother: MARIA

Issue:	Baptized:	Where:
1. ANDREAS MARTZI	01 December 1790	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary
2. ANNA MARTZI	09 February 1804	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary
3. BORBÁLA MARTZI	21 May 1810	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary
4. JÁNOS MARTZI	07 June 1813	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary
5. JÓZSEF MARTZI	circa 1814	Sátoraljaújhely, Zemplén, Hungary

Not much is known about the MARTZI family. In early church records the surname is sometimes found as MARTZIN. The spelling of the surname seems to have changed between 1820 and 1835 to MARCZI as that spelling is found in records dating from 1837; and this change is not specific to just this couple, it seems to have been applied to all those with the MARTZI surname.

The church registers of Sátoraljaújhely do not list a marriage for ÁDÁM and MÁRIA between 1794 and 1810 and nor do they note a death for either through 1816. Though it appears that ÁDÁM and MÁRIA lived in Sátoraljaújhely, the MARTZI surname is also found a few miles north in Hosszú-Láz, which is significant given that two of their three children married into the SCHMID family from Hosszú-Láz. Given the small size of the village (40 houses with 273 residents in 1873) it is highly likely that GYÖRGY MARTZI and his wife KATARINA BABIS who lived there and had at least four children between 1810 and 1822 were related, perhaps GYÖRGY and ÁDÁM were brothers, and may have been the mechanism through which the MARTZI and SCHMID families got to know each other. If the parents of MÁRIA given above are correct, she probably had a brother named VAVRINEC (LAWRENCE). He was identified through the baptisms of his and HELENA PURTSÁK or PILESIK's children: MÁRIA KISS, baptized 16 July 1790; JÁNOS KISS, baptized 25 March 1794 and JÓZSEF KISS, baptized 16 March 1799.

In Sátoraljaújhely a BORBÁLA KISS was godmother to two children of JÁNOS MARTZI and MÁRIA MOCH who were married on 8 June 1809. Their son GYÖRGY was born on 26 April 1812 and their daughter ANNA on 3 March 1815. While exact relationships are next to impossible to know at this remote time and place, there probably is a connection given the common given and surnames.

Issue

- 3) **BORBÁLA MARTZI**: The Latin form of "BARBARA" is found in the baptismal entry; her Godparents were JÓZSEF (JOSEPHUS) HAJDATSEK and ANNA VASADT or VOROCK. Married **BÁLINT SCHMID** on 20 December 1837 in Hosszú-Láz. Their story continues in their own file.
- 4) **JÁNOS MARTZI**: The Latin form of "JOANNES" is found in the baptismal entry; he had the same Godparents as his sister: JÓZSEF (JOSEPHUS) HAJDATSEK and ANNA VASADT or VOROCK.
- 5) **JÓZSEF MARTZI**: connection is far from definite; rather it is surmised from his marriage on 17 September 1832 to MARGIT SCHMID, sister of BÁLINT. (See KRISZTIÁN SCHMID file for more information)

Husband: **JOZEF JÁN KUTARŇA**
 Born: 4 January 1862 Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary¹
 Married: 25 June 1884 Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
 Died: 18 April 1922 Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pa.²
 Buried: *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City, Pa.
 Father: JÁN KUTARŇA (15 Dec. 1815 - 2 May 1881)
 Mother: ANNA VÝROSTEK (6 April 1830 - 11 May 1887)

Wife: **KATARÍNA HASAY**
 Born: 30 Dec. 1859 Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
 Died: 8 March 1933 Forest City, Susquehanna County, Pa.
 Buried: *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City, Pa.
 Father: JOZEF HASAY
 Mother: MARIA ZADYORA

ISSUE:	BORN:	WHERE:
1) JOZEF FRANTIŠEK KUTARŇA	27 August 1885	Spisská Stará Ves, Hun.
2) FRANTIŠEK JOZEF KUTARŇA	25 July 1886	Spisská Stará Ves, Hun.
3) ANNA MÁRIA KUTARŇA	22 July 1889	Plymouth, Luzerne Co, Pa.
4) JÁN A. KUTARŇA	4 May 1891	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
5) MICHAL JÁN KUTARŇA	22 March 1893	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
6) MÁRIA KUTARŇA	29 January 1895	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
7) KATARÍNA KUTARŇA	29 June 1897	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
8) (<i>unnamed daughter</i>)	1898	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
9) ŠTEFAN KUTARŇA	14 August 1899	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.
10) HELENA KUTARŇA	26 June 1903	Forest City, Susquehanna, Pa.

The KUTARŇA family hails from a village in the Carpathian Mountains in the "county" of Spis in the Slovak Republic named Stará Ves. In pre-World War I Stará Ves is *Ófalu* in Hungarian and *Altendorf* in German while Spis is *Szepes* in Hungarian and *Zips* in German and the area was known as Upper Hungary. The name means *Old Town* in all three languages.

Surnames: KUTARŇA is likely Ukrainian in origin. The - *ňa* is common in the Ukraine while being rare elsewhere in Eastern Europe according to those with some level of expertise beyond amateur have stated. The phonetic pronunciation of the final syllable of the surname, -*ňa*, is pronounced “-*nya*” as in California. KUTARNYA is the correct way to spell the name in English, but, that spelling could also be correctly pronounced “-*nī-uh*” (like Nile without the “l”). The ending “-*nia*” is more likely to be pronounced correctly. Perhaps somewhat ironically, the first record found with the Americanized spelling is the passenger list of the *SS Westphalia* in 1886 before they even left the continent – perhaps the agent was an American!. HASAY is much more

¹ Most dates obtained from Archives of the Slovak Republic at Levoca

² File 40548, Joseph Kutarnia and File 28035, Catherine Kutarnia; Pennsylvania Dept. of Health, 101 S. Mercer St., Newcastle, Pa. 16103

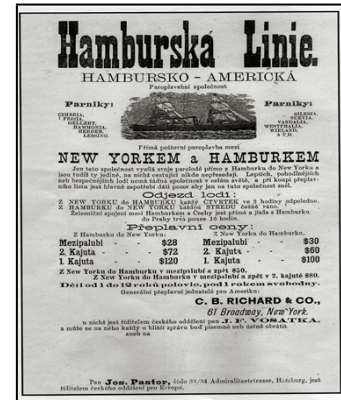
straight-forward – *HASAY* is the Slovak form but it has a ‘sz’ sound in the middle when spoken but that sound is not written phonetically – no good explanation – it just is. The Magyar alphabet has a sz diphthong and it is appropriately inserted giving us *HASZAY* which is correct sounding and spelled correctly phonetically.

Given Names: I have used the Slovak forms of most given names for the time they were in Slovakia and as they appear, or should appear, in Pennsylvanian baptismal registers. Thereafter Americanized forms are used unless the record cited used the original form whether Slovak or Magyar. *JOZEF JÁN* is the way the given name is written in Slovak while *JÓZSEF JÁNOS* is the Hungarian. *JOSEF* is an accepted Slovak alternative spelling. Most formal documents use the Hungarian form and it appears that JOZEF actually used the Hungarian form throughout his life but as this form can be quite different and, taking into account the antipathy between the two nationalities, I have opted for Slovak forms wherever possible. *KATARINA* (without the accent) is Hungarian while *KATARÍNA* is Slovak. Our great-grandmother often used the diminutive KATTIE. I have opted to use the Slovak form for given names where possible despite the area being technically a part of Hungary. Church registers often used Latin but that spelling can be substantially different (e.g. *VALENTINE* for *BALINT*); Czech is often the closest and has been used when a Slovak version has not been found.

The Ukrainian population living in the Carpathian Mountains of Slovakia was numerous enough to warrant a separate identity – they are the *Rusyns*. Slovakia is not unique in this way - in other countries the Ukrainian ex-patriot population are the *Ruthenians*.



FATHER JAKAB BOHINSKY married JOZEF and KATARÍNA at the *Kostol Nanebovzatia Panny Márie* (Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary) in Spisská Stará Ves. The witnesses were PAVOL DEMSKY and ADALBERTUS STEFANYAK. KATARÍNA had been living with her parents at No. 19 in Stará Ves while JOZEF was living at No. 63, possibly next to his father at No. 62.



After their marriage they lived at No. 44.

The great demand for unskilled laborers in the U.S., combined with the oppressive Hungarian regime over the Slovaks which limited his career possibilities and restricted his schooling to the most rudimentary one allowed; the lack of land suitable for farming in agrarian Slovakia and the promise of good wages and good living conditions from representatives of companies such as the *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* of Plymouth, Pennsylvania all fed into his decision to move to the U.S. It must have been a difficult decision to make – he had been married for a couple years, had an infant son and another on the way. But move he did, becoming one of the 14% of Spis males, age 20-25 that left between 1869 and 1890 and adding to the growing number of Slovaks that started moving to the mining regions of the northeastern corner of Pennsylvania in 1875. Probably familiar with the advertisements such as the ones at the top of the page, JOZEF started a new life when he left Stará Ves for Hamburg, Germany, a journey of almost 900 miles. He probably traveled that distance by first taking a coach to Poprad, then boarded a train to Prague and another to Hamburg. Advance reservations were necessary as 2, 3 or even 4 weeks may be spent waiting for an available opening. The train cost 10 crowns per person. In Prague, he contacted the Minister of the Interior to answer any questions he may have. He exchanged his Austrian banknotes for German money, hopefully in Slovakia where the exchange rate was better. JOZEF and many other men from Spis were dispatched by MR. AUGUST





A photo of the Hamburg warehouses with wagons and a horse in the foreground. This was published in a unknown magazine. Photo courtesy of Maralyn Wellmer.

BOLTEN from Hamburg on 10 March 1886 on the *S.S. Westphalia*, of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company.

He traveled in steerage class which cost \$28.00 in 1883. Warm clothes were a necessity and staying on deck strongly recommended to avoid seasickness. Meals were served according to groups of 8 to 16 travelers, called a *back* led by the *backmeister* who distributed food fairly to each person. The ships of this line were known for their adequate food and space though steerage class was usually characterized by a lack of food, water,

privacy and sanitation. If he brought a trunk with him, it must have been able to fit under his berth, 18 inches high. He was lucky in that the crossing took only 12 days. He arrived in New York on 22 March.³

Once there, the ship dropped anchor off of Staten Island while an official health inspector checked for signs of contagious illnesses. Once clear, the

CASTLE GARDEN

Castle Garden operated as the immigrant receiving station from 1 August 1855 to 18 April 1890. The building, originally the Southwest Battery, was constructed between 1808 and 1811 and it stood 200 feet from shore. In 1817 it was named Castle Clinton in honor of DeWitt Clinton, Mayor of New York City. The army vacated in 1821 and by 1824 Castle Garden opened as an entertainment center and when it closed in 1854, it housed an opera house and a stage theater. It is, once again, named Castle Clinton and has become part of Battery Park as the shoreline enveloped the structure.

ship
dropped



anchor near Castle Garden Immigration Station (Ellis Island was six years in the future). U.S. Immigration officials boarded the ship and customs officials examined and marked each trunk, suitcase or bag with numbered copper tags. JOZEF received identical tags as his claim check. He would transfer to a barge or tugboat to make the final over-water part of the trip to be processed through the Immigration Station. Once inside, a Czech or Hungarian clerk would assist him in filling out paperwork, claiming his bags and answering questions. He was also able to exchange whatever foreign money he had at one of the supervised exchange brokers. He could purchase a railroad ticket there and be escorted through town to Grand Central Station by officials.

PLYMOUTH, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA: 1886 – 1890

Little is known about JOZEF's first few years in Plymouth. First off we are left to ponder

³ Hamburg Direct Passenger Lists, 10 March 1886, and New York Passenger Arrivals, 22 March 1886; SS *Westphalia*.

Background information on ship and processing from: "Naše Rodina, Newsletter of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International," Vol. 7, No. 3, Sept. 1995, pp.96-100 and vol. 12, No. 2, June 2000, pp.41-49.

just how he even knew of tiny little Plymouth on the other side of the planet. Plymouth lies astride Pine Swamp Creek (Brown's Creek) on the north bank of the Susquehanna River. Coal had discovered there years earlier but only in the 1870s did the large coal companies take notice. One of the earliest mines was bought by the *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* who leased it to the *Parrish Coal Company*. The first Parrish breaker was located right in town between Academy and Girard streets, bordering the "lower town" where the Eastern European immigrant community had located. The large mining companies actively sought Eastern Europeans because they worked for low wages, and thus undercut the bargaining power of the increasingly organized Irish and Welsh miners. They were active as strike-breakers which did little to foster good relations with the older Plymouth residents. As one of the earliest of the large coal companies, *Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company* undoubtedly had representatives traveling through Spis looking for workers.

Just the year before JOZEF arrived, the *Hungarian community* was blamed for an outbreak of typhoid fever when fault lay with a local dairy farmer who had inadvertently polluted the town's water supply; being closest to that supply, the Eastern Europeans experienced a higher rate of disease and were among the first cases to be diagnosed. The high rate among those first stricken, coupled with the already present animosity of the towns people, led many to wrongly conclude that the cause must be the Hungarians pitiful and dirty living conditions. Despite this animosity, the foreign populations were growing and which ones in particular had large numbers can be surmised from the growth of the Roman Catholic Church in the area. When JOZEF got to Plymouth there were two Roman Catholic Churches he could attend and understand – *Saint Mary's* opened on Willow Street in 1885, serving the Polish and Lithuanian communities and *Saint Stephen the King (Hungarian) Roman Catholic Church* opened at 24 Wadham Street in 1886 serving the Slovaks. The Church closed in 2006 and the congregation was consolidated with *Saint Mary's* to become *All Saints Parish* at 66 Willow Street in Plymouth. Given this we can easily conclude that these three were the largest, or among the largest, of the foreign colonies. It is interesting to note that it wasn't thought necessary to have a church for Hungarians – to the other Plymouth residents, they were all Hungarians no matter where they came from!

JOZEF started working in the coal mines immediately, probably for the *Parrish Coal Company* whose first breaker was a few blocks from "Little Slovakia." He most likely stayed in boarding houses run by other Slovaks, saving up his earnings. In less than a year he had saved enough money to send for his wife, and perhaps one or both sons. He probably bought prepaid tickets on this side of the Atlantic and sent them to his wife. Such a ticket would cover all travel costs between two major cities, probably Prague or Fiume to New York and cost approximately one hundred dollars. It is not known when KATTIE left Stará Ves. Records state she emigrated here in 1887. As a woman traveling alone, or with small children, she may have accompanied a close male friend or relative and used his surname. No evidence has been discovered that would indicate JOZEF returned to Slovakia to escort his family to the new world. FRANK and JOZEF, JUNIOR may have accompanied her but some records of later dates indicate that FRANK and JOZEF stayed in Hungary until 1897 while the earlier records give the same year as their mother for immigration. On 25 January 1887 the first Parrish Coal Company's breaker between Academy and Girard Streets was completely destroyed by fire. This did not deter JOZEF or delay his plans; his wife was with him no later than October 1888. JOZEF and KATTIE lived in Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania where the family increased by one when their daughter ANNA was born in July 1889. They attended church at *Saint Stephen's* until they moved in 1890.



Before that move though, JOZEF, seemingly alone, returned to the old country in late 1889 or early 1890. As their son FRANK was born in July 1886, four months after JOZEF left for the New World the first time, FRANK only met his father when he was three years old. JOZEF returned when he sailed on the steamship *Dania*, of the Hamburg-America Line, from Hamburg on 26 June 1890, arriving at New York City on 8 July. Described as a 29-year-old workman from *Szepes Ofalu* of Hungarian citizenship, he may have, in fact, travelled with ANDREAS PISARCIK, a 40-year-old workman from *Matyasfalu*. JOSEPH PISARCIK became his son-in-law and, though the relationship is not certain, it is notable that JOZEF and ANDREAS are adjacent in the passenger lists.⁴ The Castle Garden Immigration Station had closed in April and was replaced by the Barge Office. The *Dania* was a new single-funnel, double-masted ship with accommodations for 30 1st-class and 1,400 3rd-class passengers. She made her maiden voyage in December 1889. The next trip of the *Dania* after JOZEF'S return was more eventful; she was heading for Lower New York Bay on the night of August 20th when she ran aground and became stranded off Point Lookout, opposite Jones's Inlet on Long Island. It was only floated two-and-a-half days later at high tide in the early morning hours of 23 August. The Barge Office would not let the passengers disembark so they remained onboard the *Dania* or the *Normannia* which was brought in for that purpose. But this pales when compared to her encounter with rough weather off the Banks during June 1895 when her propeller shaft broke. Luckily it was but a short time before her distress call was answered and she was towed 350 miles to New York Harbor. Her troubles with New York were not yet over; on 30 November 1920 she sank in the harbor after colliding with the steamship *San Marcos*.⁵



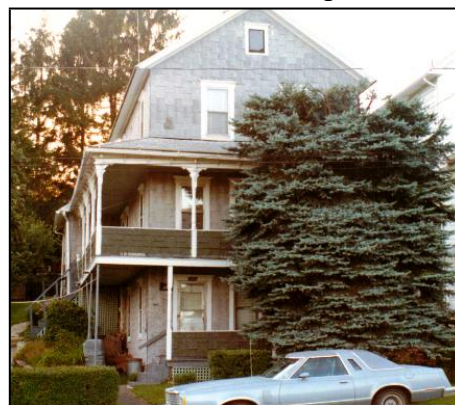
FOREST CITY, SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

In 1890 or early 1891 JOSEPH and KATHERINE moved their growing family to Forest City in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. The town was first named Forest Mills from 1864 to 1879, followed by Pentecost, after its founder, from 1879 to 1886 when it was changed a third time to Forest City in 1886. Coal had been discovered there before 1870. The *Hillside Coal and Iron Company*, owned by the Erie Railroad, bought large tracts of land in the area, and by 1872 it was the first profitable coal company in town. In 1884 they sunk Shaft #1 at the beginning of Delaware Street (now in the Industrial Park) and opened the Clifford Breaker nearby. In the fall of 1886, Shaft #2 was sunk near the Clifford Breaker (now in the Franceski Lumber Yard) and a third shaft, the Clifford slope, opened in 1889. Miners from Eastern and

Southern Europe began arriving in Forest City to meet the demand and to supplement that of miners from nearby towns were made enticing offers. The *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* needed miners for their expanding coal mines and probably offered better terms than what they were getting to those that would relocate.

⁴ Hamburg Direct Passenger Departures, 26 June 1890, passenger 271, and New York Passenger Arrivals, 8 July 1890, passenger 226, SS *Dania*.
⁵ New York Times, 24 August 1890 and 30 June 1895. Michael P. Palmer, *DANIA* (1889, 1896), Palmer List of Merchant Vessels, revised 16 March 2001 (archived page) and *DANIA / MONTSERRAT* 1889, theshipslist.com; both citing: Noel Reginald Pixell Bonsor, *North Atlantic Seaway; An Illustrated History of the Passenger Services Linking the Old World with the New* (2nd ed.; Jersey, Channel Islands: Brookside Publications), vol. 1 (1975), p. 396, and vol.3, p.1247,1255.

JOSEPH and KATHERINE moved and almost immediately joined the Forest City Lodge Number 30, of the new and secular *National Slovak Society* on 1 March 1891. The *NSS*, founded 16 February 1890, was an organization of local Slovak social groups that formed to keep alive the traditional Slovak customs as well as help them to assimilate into society at large by teaching English, helping with naturalization, etc. They celebrated holidays together and now the *NSS* is one of the oldest Slovak organizations in this country. Membership in the *NSS* brought with it one very important benefit – insurance. Through the *NSS* JOSEPH obtained \$1000.00 insurance policy with KATARINA as beneficiary. At the same time KATARINA obtained a \$500.00 policy with JOSEPH as beneficiary. It is interesting to note that JOSEPH gave his birth date as 3 January 1861 in some of the *NSS* records.⁶ There were no Catholic Churches serving Eastern European communities there in 1890 so, if they went to church, they went to *Saint Agnes' Church* which had been built for the Irish two years earlier; their daughter MARY was baptized here. *Saint Anthony of Padua* became the second Catholic Church when it opened at 512 Lackawanna Street in 1894 for the Lithuanian population and may have provided a slightly more amenable congregation though they did not speak Lithuanian. Their remaining children were all baptized here. Another option was *Saint John's Byzantine Catholic Church* which opened in 1897 but it is not known what language was used for mass. Two more national churches opened in 1904: *Saint Joseph's* was Slovenian and *Sacred Heart of Jesus* was Polish. *Sacred Heart* also had the only Catholic cemetery which the KUTARNIA family used though Saint Agnes had one since 1895. They waited another decade before a Slovak church opened; one did when the old Baptist church became *Saint Michael the Archangel* in 1914. National churches were under the authority of the country they served, not the Diocese of Scranton, which helped to delay their creation. *Sacred Heart* is the only church listed that remains open; *Saints Agnes, Anthony, Michael and Joseph* were merged to form the *Ascension of Our Lord Parish Church* in 2010 which uses a renovated *Saint Joseph's*. The other three were razed.



Just where the family lived for the first eight years in Forest City is unknown. On 3 August 1898 JOSEPH bought lots 3 and 4 on Delaware Street from the *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* for \$300.00. Each lot had a house on it; the larger became the KUTARNIA homestead at 243 Delaware while the smaller, at 237 Delaware, was usually rented out. The deed reserves the rights *to coal and other minerals* to the company. It also stipulates that no *spirituous, malt or vinous liquors whatever* are allowed on the premises. On 25 June 1908, JOSEPH sold the lots to his wife; she sold them to their son JOSEPH on 14 June 1910; JOSEPH immediately resold them to his parents that same day! Three more deeds regarding this property appear in the records: (1) in 1924, KATHERINE and the estate of JOSEPH sold the 237 Delaware Street lot to MICHAEL LOZAR; (2) in 1932 title to the homestead was transferred to son JOSEPH KUTARNIA; and (3) a later deed of uncertain date is from JOSEPH KUTARNIA by the authority of the *Susquehanna County Treasurer* to the *Susquehanna County*

⁶ National Slovak Society, Paid Insurance Claims, Joseph Kutarnia, Mbr. 549, Acct. 148, Claim register 9815, paid insurance claim 5563; Katarina Kutarnia, mbr. 31517, acct. 278, paid insurance claim 11751; records in possession of Immigrant History Research Center, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry St., St. Paul, MN. 55114-1076. Information used with permission of Immigrant History Research Center.

*Commissioners.*⁷ The last of these sounds like the 243 Delaware Street property was forfeited for unpaid taxes. The KUTARNIA family was settled into a house on Delaware Street and the future looked good. In 1900 the house number of the homestead was 85 but thereafter all records give the current house number of 243. They also had up to five boarders in the homestead besides the renters at 237. In 1899 Forest City was hit with a major fire which burned down thirteen buildings.

They celebrated their Silver (25th) Wedding Anniversary on 25 June 1909 and had a formal picture taken with their nine surviving children (*see following page*). KATARÍNA is the quintessential Slovak woman - heavy set, stern looking, no nonsense, hair pulled back and towering over her husband even though they are both seated. JOZEF is remembered as a very quiet man and it shows through.



JOSEPH, JOHN, ANNA, FRANK & MICHAEL (*Standing L>R*)
KATTIE, HELEN, KATARÍNA and JOZEF, MARY & STEVEN (*Seated L>R*)

A letter, dated 11 March 1912, gives their mailing address as Box 425, Forest City.⁸ The 1920 census has them at 243 Delaware Street with their children JOSEPH, STEPHEN, "ELLEN", and JOHN. JOSEPH is a laborer in the coalmines.⁹ They never became fluent in English, opting instead to speak a Slovak – Polish mix with some Hingarian words and phrases thrown in.¹⁰ JOSEPH

⁷ Recorder of Deeds, Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa. Deed book 97, p. 564; deed book 115, p. 202; deed book 117, pp.323-324; deed book 147, p. 722, deed book 167, p.189; deed book 187, p. 3.

⁸ National Slovak Society (See Note 6)

⁹ 1900 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Town of Forest City, 7th Ward, 7 June 1900, p.10A, family 169, dwelling 113, lines 41-55; LDS Microfilm T623, Roll 1488, Enumeration District 81. and 1910 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Town of Forest City, 1st Ward, 23 April 1910, p. 12A, family 200, dwelling 109, lines 6-14; LDS Microfilm T624, roll 1421, enumeration district 64. and 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 20 January 1920, p. 123, sheet 15A, family 239, dwelling 218, lines 25-30; LDS microfilm T625, roll 1655, E.D.68.

¹⁰ Mary (Smith) Neville, Conversation, 25 January 1989, Placentia, Ca.

worked as a miner for the *Hillside Coal and Iron Company* until his health deteriorated.

As to their education, the Kutarnia children would have attended School 2 on South Main Street which opened in 1900, followed by the Borough High School which had opened in 1897.

The KUTARNIA boys formed a band with JOHN playing the bass, MIKE playing the clarinet, FRANK playing the accordion, and JOSEPH JUNIOR playing the violin.¹¹

JOSEPH had to stop working on 6 January 1922 due to miner's asthma, according to a *Physician's Certificate* signed by his doctor G.L. MCGUNN, M.D.¹² He took ill with influenza,



complicated by acute bronchitis on 8 April 1922.

JOSEPH KUTARNIA passed away on 18 April 1922, the cause being *miner's asthma*, written as *mayners azma* in NSS documents. However, a death certificate for the NSS gives the cause as *influenza*. His funeral mass was officiated by REVEREND A. HALICKI of *Sacred Heart of Jesus Church* and the undertaker was M.J. CONNELLY. He was buried on 21 April 1922 in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. His obituary states he was *one of Forest City's best known and most highly regarded residents*.¹³

1922 was not a good year for KATARINA, she lost her husband and her health began to deteriorate. She began having heart trouble and it was discovered she had diabetes. KATARINA received full payment from JOSEPH'S NSS insurance policy on 6 May 1922. On 14 January 1924, KATARINA designated the beneficiaries of her NSS insurance policy as follows: *JOSEPH KUTARNIA, son, 36, Forest City, ANNIE KUTARNIA, daughter, 34, Brae Home, WV, JOHN KUTARNIA, son, 32, Forest City, MIKE KUTARNIA, son, 30, Forest City, MARY KUTARNIA, daughter, 28, Camden, NJ, STEFAN KUTARNIA, son, 22, Forest City, HELLEN KUTARNIA, daughter, 19, Forest City, and JOHN KUTARNIA, grandson, 14, Forest City*. Another designation, dated 28 January 1929, deletes daughter MARY who had died. In 1931, daughter ANNA was dropped, as was grandson JOHN.¹⁴

The 1930 US Census shows KATTIE in the homestead with the following: her single

¹¹ Helen (Kutarnia) Gleason, conversation with Barbra Matuszewski, 21 October 1985; Washington Crossing, Pa.; cassette tape in possession of author.

¹² National Slovak Society (See Note 6)

¹³ *Forest City News*, 636 Main St., Forest City, Pa. 18421; 20 April 1922.

¹⁴ National Slovak Society (See Note 6)

children JOSEPH and STEVE; her married daughters family, HERMAN and HELEN GLEASON and their son ROBERT; her 19 year old nephew JOHN KUTARNIA, son of FRANK; and her 7 year old niece MARIE PISARCIK, the daughter of MARY (KUTARNIA) PISARCIK who passed away in 1924.

KATARINIA KUTARNIA dated a will 11 June 1932 that was presented on 14 March 1933. In it she bequeathed her household goods equally between her son JOSEPH and daughter HELEN GLEASON, \$100.00 to each of her surviving children: *JOSEPH, HELEN, MIKE, JOHN, STEPHEN and ANNA*, \$100.00 to her *grandson JOHN*, most likely *SONNY KUTARNIA*, son of FRANK, who she raised after FRANK's death. JOHN GLINSKY of Forest City was appointed executor and it was witnessed by EDWARD STRATFORD and JOSEPH DEGMA.¹⁵ KATTIE apparently had a heart attack on 1 March 1933 after which she was attended by H. BLIMOCHOWSKI, M.D. She passed away on 8 March 1933 in Forest City. Her death was due to diabetes mellitus, and acute dilatation of the heart. REVEREND A. HALICKI, of *Sacred Heart of Jesus Church*, officiated as he had for her husband eleven years before. Her appointed executor, JOHN F. GLINSKY, doubled as her undertaker. She was buried on 11 March 1933 in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. Her obituary states that she was *one of the best known and most highly respected residents in this section and her death will be deeply mourned*.¹⁶

Their gravestone has the inscription *REST IN PEACE AMEN*:

ODPOČIVEJTE V POKOJIA

KATARINA'S year of birth is given as 1864, an error which, to date, has no explanation. After her death, a letter from JOHN A. KUTARNIA to the NSS was specific in its meaning to delete *ANNE SMITH of Trenton, NJ* as a payee on the insurance check as only the five children in Forest City had paid the funeral and burial expenses. \$27.50 was reserved to the NSS as a result of earlier financial difficulties experienced by the organization. On 1 April 1933, her children JOSEPH,



JOHN, MICHAEL, STEPHEN and HELEN received payment of \$472.50 from the NSS, as payment on her insurance policy.

Their son JOSEPH took over the homestead and is found there in 1940 with his sister HELEN's family: her husband HERMAN and their children ROBERT and EDWARD. His niece MARIE PISARCIK, daughter of MARIE, was also living there. The neighboring house at 237 Delaware was being rented by JOSEPH and MARTHA BERISH. Oddly another house with the number 239 shows up in this census.¹⁷

Two others with this surname have been found in the area: a JOHN KUTARNIA in Forest City in 1900 and a GEORGE KUTARNIA in Susquehanna County in 1910 but it is not known if they were related. In 2014 the author uncovered a branch of the family that apparently moved across the Dunajec River, settling in the village of Frydman, Poland. A 16 year old JÁN

¹⁵ Katarinia Kutarnia, will of; Register of Wills, Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa.;

¹⁶ *Forest City News*, op. cit., 9 March 1933

¹⁷ 1940 US Census: Pennsylvania, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 9 April 1940, ED 58-11, sheet 7A, fam. 112, lines 1-6.

KUTARNIA arrived in New York aboard the *Fürst Bismarck* on 19 August 1899 from Frydman. Some of the family emigrated to Canada before settling in Pittsburg, PA.

In 1991 JOSEPH and KATHRYN's descendants had their names placed on the *American Immigrant Wall of Honor* at the *Ellis Island Immigration Station National Park* to both honor their ancestors and support the effort to rehabilitate the place even though Ellis Island did not open until 1892. Much of the stone used in the massive constructions was obtained from the Forest City quarry.¹⁸

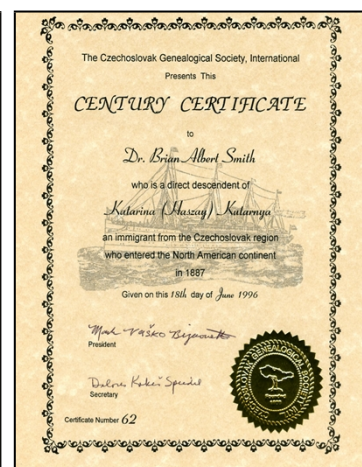
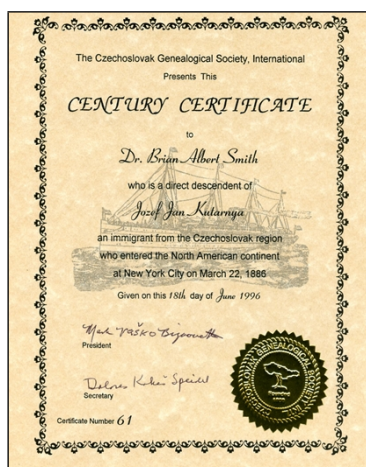
In 2001, their great-grandson (and this author), BRIAN A. SMITH obtained *Century Certificates* from the *Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International* in recognition of JOSEPH and KATARINA's decision to emigrate. A short biography was published in *Naše Rodina*, the Society's newsletter that same year.¹⁹



Jerome F. Kutak
Nellie Nicola Kutan
Joseph J. and Catherine Haszay
Kutarnia
Nickodine Lawrence Kutas
Stanley Adam Kutas

ISSUE:²⁰

- 1) JOZEF FRANTIŠEK KUTARNIA: baptized 29 August 1885, sponsors were MARIA STEFANYAK and ANTON LOSTELNIZSAK. He is thought to have emigrated with his mother in 1887. His World War I draft card, dated 5 June 1917, gives his name as JOSEPH FRANCIS KUTARNIA, JUNIOR being born on 29 August



¹⁸John N. Obelenus. *Highlights of Forest City Borough History*. (Forest City News, 1938) pp. 41 - 54.

¹⁹ *Naše Rodina*, Volume 13, number 2, June 2001, pages 60 – 62.

²⁰ Information regarding the children mostly obtained through correspondence and conversations with Helen Gleason, Margaret Spyhalski and Celestine Cicco of Forest City, Pa.; with Kathryn Spych of Trenton, NJ; and with Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 612 Hudson St., Forest City, Pa.

1887 in *Stravries Spiska Austria* (Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary). He is listed as a self-employed barber and a *naturalized citizen* living at 243 Delaware. He is described as having a medium height, slender build, dark hair, gray eyes and his right leg is crippled. He only completed 3 years of schooling and as found as a slate-packer in the coalmines in 1900 and by 1910 he was a weigh-master for a coal broker. He became a barber and operated his shop in the first floor of the KUTARNIA homestead, living there through 1940 at least. He later had a shop on Main Street. He was involved in several land transfers with his parents over the years, as noted earlier. He became a Justice of the Peace. He never married. He suffered a heart attack on 1 March 1964 and died three days later in Saint Joseph's Hospital in Carbondale (Lackawanna County). He was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*.

- 2) FRANTIŠEK JOZEF KUTARNIA: baptized 26 July 1884. He worked as a *driver* in 1900. He obtained a license to marry MARY GILMORE on 29 December 1905. This states he was born 25 July 1883 in Austria, and worked as *car-runner* in Forest City where he lived. His wife was born in England or Ireland in August 1884, was living in Fell Township, Lackawanna County and was employed as a *silk worker*.²¹ It seems that they had two sons, JOHN and JOSEPH, and two daughters, CATHERINE and HELEN, before this marriage ended. Probably not too long after the death of their son JOSEPH in 1914, they separated and by 1920, FRANK had married a woman named ADELINA. His World War I draft card states he was born in Lackawanna County. In the 1920 census it states he emigrated in 1897 and was naturalized in 1904. He was a coal mine foreman, living on Morris Avenue in Simpson with his wife LINA in 1920.²² They are on Rogers Avenue in Carbondale by 1926 where FRANK is a foreman. FRANK had surgery in 1928 at Hahnemann Hospital in Scranton on July 30th to remove a sarcoma (muscle tumor) from his left thigh but died there from complications of the surgery on 5 August 1928. The informant for his death certificate gave an incorrect date of birth, 26 July 1887, and incorrect place of birth, *Austria*. His wife is named as ADELINA KUTARNIA and his parents as JOSEPH KUTARNIA and KATARINA HASSAK, both from *Austria*. After his name appears *Forest City* which probably indicates where the burial would take place.²³ He is interred in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. After his death ADELINA disappears from records. It seems that the oldest two daughters moved to where their mother was living if they hadn't done so years before. It is believed they changed their surname to GILMORE. What happened to JOSEPH is not known and SONNY moves to the KUTARNIA homestead to be raised by his grandmother and AUNT HELEN.

- a) CATHERINE KUTARNIA: surname changed to GILMORE
- b) HELEN KUTARNIA: surname changed to GILMORE
- c) JOHN KUTARNIA: "SONNY" born 5 March 1910, raised by grandmother and mentioned in her will. Contracted tuberculosis and recuperated in the DeBoer Sanitarium in Browns Mills, NJ. Married VIOLET REYNOLDS. SONNY died in October 1957. VI married again to LEONARD LEAMAN and lived on 2nd Street in Fieldsboro, NJ. She died in 1994 or 1995.
 - i) JOHN KUTARNIA
 - ii) WILLIAM KUTARNIA: born 1951, wife CONNIE (b 1959), live in Escondido, CA.

²¹ Marriage License, Frank Kutarnia and Mary Gilmore, 29 Dec. 1905; Susquehanna County Court House, Montrose, Pa. 18801

²² 1920 US Census: PA, Lackawanna County, Fell Tp. (Simpson), 9 Jan. 1920, ED 55, sheet 8, fam.114, dw.83, lines 8-9.

²³ Certificate of death, Frank Kutarnia, 5 Aug. 1928, File 84371; Pennsylvania Division of Vital Records, 101 S. Mercer St., New Castle, Pa.

- iii) THOMAS KUTARNIA: works in Trenton, lives in Fieldsboro, NJ. (1995)
- d) JOSEPH KUTARNIA: born 20 August 1911 in Simpson, Pa; died 28 May 1914 in Simpson, in Fell Township, after an acute bout of gastroenteritis. The information on his death certificate was supplied by his mother who gave her place of birth as England. He was buried in *Saint Rose of Lima Cemetery* in Carbondale.²⁴
- 3) ANNA MÁRIA KUTARNIA: baptized at *Saint Stephen's Roman Catholic Church* in Plymouth on 28 July 1889 by REVEREND JOSEPH KOŠALKO, the driving force behind the building of *Saint Stephen's* and listed as the church's rector from 1888 to 1890. Her Godparents were JOHN ELENČIK and MARY BENSLIK. A JOHN ELENČIK has been found in the 1900 census returns for Plymouth who would have been 19 at ANNA's baptism. JOHN was a hotel proprietor and lived with his wife of five years at 133 East Main Street. The same census has a MARY BENEDIK or BENDIK who was just 15 at the time of the baptism. She lived with her husband MARTIN and their three children HELEN, THOMAS and ANTHONY at 101 East Main Street.²⁵ The church record gives her birth date as 22 July 1889; likewise, the birth certificate of her son JOSEPH gives the same date. She may have been named ANNA as the *Feast Day of SAINT ANN* falls on July 26 and is a widely-celebrated holiday in Slovakia. For most of her adult life she celebrated her birthday on June 21st, the summer solstice, for reasons unknown. This was also a widely celebrated nature holiday in which bonfires would be lit and young men would jump over them to show their prowess or a couple that was to court would jump as a way of publicly declaring the commitment. These fires were later called *Saint John's fires* to commemorate the day of SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST on June 24th. In 1940 she claimed to have completed just five years of school.²⁶ She married JOSEPH JOHN SMITH on 15 August 1905 at *Saint Anthony of Padua Church*. (continued on separate file)
- 4) JÁN KUTARNIA: a baptismal record has not been located and, for this reason, it cannot be said with certainty that the 16 year old that arrived in New York in 1899 is not the same person. JÁN worked as a laborer in the "oil mines" in 1910. He married before 1915 and his wife's name was JOSEPHINE (born 12 November 1892). In the 1920 census they were renting a house at 601 Delaware Street and sharing it with the MARJUCKOSKI family. He was a coal miner.²⁷ By 1930 they had purchased a home at 525 Susquehanna Avenue.²⁸ He was president of the Forest City Lodge Number 30 of the NSS in 1922, treasurer in 1930 and bookkeeper in 1933.²⁹ JOHN died on 4 December 1936 and was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*, Forest City on 9 December. JOSEPHINE died on 26 October 1974 and was buried with her husband on 29 October.
- a) JOHN KUTARNIA: born 31 August 1914, (SS#: 110076016); died 13 June 1975 in Irvington, Westchester County, New York. As he has a Veteran's file, he must have been

²⁴ Kutarnia, Joseph, certificate of death, No. 47565, Lackawanna County, PA.

²⁵ 1900 US Census: PA, Luzerne County, Plymouth, p. 66A (Mary) and 66B (John),

²⁶ 1940 US Census: NJ, Mercer Co, Trenton, 11th Ward, block 45, 18 April 1940, ED 27-89, sheet 7A, dwelling 133, lns 24-30.

²⁷ 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 12 Jan. 1920, ED 69, sheet 5, fam. 74, dw. 66, lns 92-96;.

²⁸ 1930 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, ED 38-11, sheet 2A, family 28, dwelling 28, lines 39-45.

²⁹ National Slovak Society (See Note 6)

in the Armed Forces. A JOHN and JOSEPHINE KUTARNIA were living in Poughkeepsie, NY in 1952 and 1955; perhaps JOHN lived near his brother FRANK.

- i) BARBARA KUTARNIA: Yonkers, NY.
- b) FRANK A. KUTARNIA: born 22 November 1918, served in the US Army from 16 April 1942 to 23 October 1945; married DELORES SKRAJNER, daughter of MARY SVETLIN and FELIX SKRAJNER (deceased) at *Saint Joseph's Catholic Church*, Forest City on 17 November 1945.³⁰ A FRANK and DOLORES KUTARNIA were living in New Rochelle, NY in 1950 and in Poughkeepsie, NY in 1955-57 but it has yet to be proved to be the same couple. (SS#: 202095421) He died 27 November 1972 (some records give year as 1992). DOLORES died 17 February 2012. They are buried in Forest City at *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*.
 - i) SYLVIA JOYCE KUTARNIA: born 29 October 1946 in White Plains, Westchester County NY. She died at 18 years old on 30 December 1964 in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, NY and was buried in *Saint Peters Cemetery* in Poughkeepsie, NY.
 - c) ADAM KUTARNIA: died young
 - d) MARGARET KUTARNIA: born 27 November 1923; married JOSEPH SPYHALSKI, Forest City. JOSEPH died 27 July 1993 and MARGARET on 6 September 2019; they are interred at *Saint Joseph's Cemetery* in Forest City.
 - i) JOSEPH SPYHALSKI: married LINDA STAY, Vestal, NY
 - ii) MARGARET SPYHALSKI: married JOHN "JACKIE" SMITH, great-grandson of JANOS SMID and ANNA UNTENER, Vestal NY.
 - (1) MEG SMITH: born 1976
 - (2) KATIE SMITH: born 1984
 - e) ROBERT KUTARNIA: born 1926; married DOROTHY, Albuquerque, N.M.
 - i) DONNA KUTARNIA
 - ii) SANDY KUTARNIA
 - f) SYLVIA KUTARNIA: born 1926; married FRANK KRESOCK; died before 1985.
 - i) FRANK KRESOCK: married ROSEMARY, Danville, Pa.
 - ii) CAROL KRESOCK: Chalfont, Pa.
 - g) CELESTINE KUTARNIA: married EUGENE M. CICCIO, Forest City, PA. EUGENE was born in Scranton, Lackawanna County, PA on 20 January 1930 and died in Dunmore in the same County on 2 August 2019; he was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery* in Forest City.
 - i) JOANN CICCIO: died young.
 - ii) MARY CICCIO: married and lived in NJ; in 2020 she lives in AZ and uses her maiden name.
 - iii) SUSAN CICCIO: married ROBERT RICHARDS; 2 children. Family lived in Carbondale (1990) and Forest City (2020), PA
 - iv) EUGENE M. CICCIO, JUNIOR: married; Carbondale, PA and Lake Winola in 2020.
 - v) CHRISTINE CICCIO: born circa 1968, Wilkes-Barre, PA; married DENNIS BROWN and moved to Florida.

5) MICHAL JÁN KUTARNIA: baptized on 26 March 1893 at *Saint Agnes' Church* by REVEREND

³⁰ *Slovenian Marriages as Reported in the Forest City News*; <http://feehs.org/slovenia>; 1996, Slovenia Genealogical Society and Federation of Eastern European History Societies.

J.J. CORONER and his Godparents were PETER MICA and ELIZABETH BITCHKA. This first Catholic Church was consecrated on 18 September 1892. He was a hotel bartender in 1910. By 1920 he was a merchant, had a wife named MARY SMOLKO, and lived at 730 Delaware Street, Forest City.³¹ MARY was born in Jessup on 21 March 1896 to ANDREW SMOLKO and MARY KOZAK. He became a proprietor of a gas station in the town.³² They were living on Railroad Street in Forest City when their son JOHN died in 1930. MARY died on 9 October 1937 from a cerebral hemorrhage. Their residence at that time was 404 Delaware Street and MICHAEL was at this address with CYRIL and MARIE in 1940.³³ She was buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery*. MICHAEL may have moved to Jessup, PA before moving to Robbinsville, NJ where he ran a farm.

- a) MICHAEL KUTARNIA: born 16 July 1917, married to ANNA “NINI” (born 10 May 1925, died November 1985). Appears to have moved to Buffalo, Erie County, NY between 1935 and 1940 and lived at 17 Richlawn Avenue with FRANK and MARGARET SMITH. MICHAEL died December 1992 in Rockville Center, Nassau County, NY.
 - i) ROSEANNE KUTARNIA
 - (1) (SON)
 - ii) JOSEPH KUTARNIA
- b) CYRIL KUTARNIA: born 6 March 1922; wife CECELIA PANASOWICH, (born 19 November 1925 to ALEXANDER and MARTHA PANASOWICH) Robbinsville, NJ; he died November 1966. CEIL was living with her son in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada by 1995 and she died there on 25 June 2011.
 - i) BARBARA KUTARNIA: married name is Dix, living in Cape May Courthouse, New Jersey in 2011.
 - ii) CELESTINE KUTARNIA: married name is SCHINKLE, living in Columbus, Burlington County, New Jersey in 2011.
- c) JOHN KUTARNIA: born 12 August 1926; died 19 April 1930 in “Winston Borough,” Jessup, Lackawanna County from acute endocarditis. Buried in *Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery* in Forest City.
- d) KENNETH KUTARNIA: living in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.
- e) MARIE CATHERINE KUTARNIA: born 2 September 1929, Forest City, Lackawanna County, PA. She married GEORGE W. HAND, JUNIOR who was born in Dutch Neck, Mercer County, NJ on 27 October 1928. GEORGE died 8 June 1991 in Riverhead, Suffolk County, NY and was buried in *Saint Patrick’s Cemetery* in Southold, Suffolk County. MARIE moved to Lake Worth, Palm Beach County, FL and died there 8 August 1999; she was buried with her husband. Find-A-Grave entry names ANNA PIFFATH, her step-mother, as her mother.
 - i) GEORGE W. HAND, III: of Southold in 1991.
 - ii) MICHAEL F HAND: of Mattituck, NY in 1991.
 - iii) ANNE MARIE HAND: married name ROSEN, lived in Florida in 1991.
 - iv) MARY ANN HAND: married name METZ, lived in Southold in 1991.

³¹ 1920 US Census: PA, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 14 Jan. 1920, ED 70, sheet 13, fam.229, dw.206, ln.73-75.

³² John N. Obelenus. Highlights of Forest City Borough History. (*Forest City News*, 1938) p. 104.

³³ 1940 US Census: Pennsylvania, Susquehanna County, Forest City Borough, 120 April 1940, ED 58-11, sheet 9A, fam. 149, lines 8-10.

MICHAEL married a second time, to ANNA PIFFATH (born 2 February 1898) and probably moved to Trenton. MICHAEL died 8 January 1961 and was buried in *Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery* in Trenton, New Jersey. After MICHAEL's death, ANNA lived on Lafayette Avenue in Trenton before moving to Long Island, NY where she lived with her stepdaughter MARIE. She passed away on 21 June 1985 and was buried next to her husband.

- 6) MÁRIA KUTARNIA: *MEARY* was baptized at *Saint Agnes' Church* by REVEREND J.J. CORONER on 3 February 1895 with sponsors being STEPHEN MURRAY and ANNA VARGA. She was a *spinner* in a silk mill in 1910. She married JOSEPH J. PISARCIK (born 6 December 1888, Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary) on 29 May 1911. They lived in Ashley, PA for a time and then moved to Camden, NJ. MARY died on 4 April 1924 in Camden and was interred in Ashley, PA. JOSEPH then married MARY GRUTKA in Newark, NJ in 1925 or 1926. She was also born in Stará Ves; she died 29 July 1946. He then married ANNA PETERLY in Camden, NJ in May 1949. JOSEPH died 18 September 1971 in Camden, NJ
 - a) ELIZABETH MARIE PISARCIK: *BETTY* born 11 June 1912, Ashley, PA; married 1933 GEORGE STEELMAN (died 8 September 1987, FL.); died 17 July 1995, Sarasota, FL. BETTY's last known address is: 1908 Barstow Place, Sarasota, FL 34235.
 - i) GEORGE H. STEELMAN, JUNIOR: born 15 January 1935, Camden, NJ
 - (1) ROSS P. STEELMAN: born March 1983
 - ii) MARGARET A. STEELMAN: born 22 July 1941, Salem, NJ; married ROY STANFIELD, 27 October 1962.
 - (1) MICHAEL PAUL STANFIELD: born 9 August 1963
 - (2) JESSICA MICHELE STANFIELD: born 13 October 196?
 - (3) THERESA LYNN STANFIELD: born 24 October 1964, married MICHAEL HARRIS in Cape Town, Africa on 23 March 1992.
 - (4) JEFFREY ROY STANFIELD: born 25 May 1967, lives in Philadelphia.
 - b) MARGARET PISARCIK: born 21 September 1916, Ashley, PA, married FRANCIS JOSEPH MAHALA, born 26 March 1916, died 16 July 1983, Salem, NJ. Last known address for MARGARET: 42 7th Street, Salem, NJ 08079. They had 9 children including triplets:
 - i) FRANCIS JOSEPH MAHALA, JUNIOR: born 18 June 1943, married DIANE FEDORA, 1966
 - (1) KELLI MAHALA: married JON RUIZ.
 - (a) JACOB RUIZ: born 1991.
 - ii) ELIZABETH CECILIA MAHALA: born 25 November 1946, married 1st ROBERT POWELL (deceased):
 - (1) STEFAN POWELL
 - (2) VINSON POWELL
 - (3) NICOLE POWELL
 After ROBERT's death, ELIZABETH then married TOM GRAHAM.
 - (4) LAUREN GRAHAM
 - iii) RITA JEAN MAHALA: born 7 May 1951, married GUY LUDLAM, divorced:
 - (1) DARREN LUDLAM
 - (2) DANE LUDLAM
 RITA married a second time, to RUSS CRAMMER.
 - iv) DAVID MICHAEL MAHALA: born 29 January 1954, married JOYCE, divorced:
 - (1) JANELL MAHALA

- (2) MICHAEL MAHALA
After divorcing JOYCE, DAVID married SUSAN.
- (3) CHRISTOPHER MAHALA: born 1987.
- v) PHILLIP JOHN MAHALA: born 24 February 1955, married CINDY. PHILLIP adopted her son JOHN.
 - (1) JEREMY MAHALA
 - (2) ASHLEY KAITLYN MAHALA: born 1991
- vi) JOHN STEPHEN MAHALA: born 7 March 1956, married MARY.
 - (1) THERESA MAHALA
 - (2) KATIE MAHALA
 - (3) STEPHEN John MAHALA: born 1990
- vii) THOMAS JOHN MAHALA: born 8 March 1956, married JUDY.
 - (1) MEGHAN ELIZABETH MAHALA
 - (2) SCOTT EDWARD MAHALA
 - (3) AMY JOANNA MAHALA: born 1991
- viii) ROSEANNA THERESA MAHALA: born 8 March 1956; she was first married to a man with the surname DAVIS, were divorced; she then married a second time, to DAVID GARIBALDI on 24 October 1987.
- ix) JOSEPH ANDREW MAHALA: born 9 December 1959, single.
- c) JOSEPH A. PISARCIK: born 26 November 1919, Camden, NJ, mar. 23 November 1940, Salem, NJ to JULIE MAHALA (sister of FRANK). Last known address: 190 Crossland Avenue, Salem, NJ 08079. They had:
 - i) JOSEPH H. PISARCIK: married first ANN, divorced; married unnamed wife.
- d) JOHN JOSEPH PISARCIK: born 11 December 1920, Camden, NJ; married GENEVIEVE JUSIAK on 1 March 1940 in Camden, NJ; last known address: 106 Albany Avenue, Barrington, NJ 08007. They had:
 - i) JOHN JOSEPH PISARCIK, JUNIOR: born 6 August 1941, married LENORA, Maryland, 3 children.
 - ii) AGNES ELIZABETH PISARCIK: born 11 December 1942, married RUSS WURST, 3 children.
 - iii) JOAN HELEN PISARCIK: married VINCE D'ELIA:
 - (1) BERNADETTE D'ELIA
 - iv) EDWARD PISARCIK: married first [unk]; 2 daughters; married 2nd ELEANOR:
 - (1) JENNY PISARCIK
 - (2) JOHN ADAM PISARCIK
 - v) BERNARD C. PISARCIK: born 7 March 1948, married VIRGINIA BACHMAN.
 - vi) DOLORES EILEEN PISARCIK: born 23 August 1949, married BUD WEISSER; 3 children.
 - vii) JEAN ANN PISARCIK
 - viii) PATRICIA ELLEN PISARCIK: born 29 July 1951, married DOMINIC CENTOZA.
 - ix) JAMES PISARCIK: married MARGIE; 2 sons.
 - x) CHARLES PISARCIK: married MARYANN; 4 children.
 - xi) EILEEN LOUISE PISARCIK: married DAVE McMULLEN:
 - (1) KRISTY McMULLEN
 - (2) KATHY McMULLEN

same date as the church records. She married HERMAN GLEASON (buried *Colonial Cemetery*, Trenton, NJ). They were living in Simpson, PA in 1922. They moved back to the KUTARNIA homestead in Forest City in 1924 and HELEN helped her mother raise MARIE PISARCIK, 1 year old daughter of MARY who died in 1924. The GLEASON family paid \$4.00 a month in rent in 1930. HELEN and HERMAN moved to Trenton for an unknown period of time after 1930. They were divorced and HELEN returned to Forest City. She died 5 August 1994.

- a) ROBERT GLEASON: born 3 June 1927; died 1 September 1984 from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Forest City, PA.
- b) EDWARD GLEASON: "DUNDEE" married & divorced JOYCE RISTO, Forest City.

Image Sources

Castle Garden is from: Gene Askamit "Castle Garden – America's First Immigrant Receiving Station" *Naše rodina* (12)2: 41,46, June 2000

Steamships *SS Westphalia* and *SS Dania* are from Arnold Kludas and Herbert Bischoff, *Die Schiffe der Hamburg-Amerika Linie*, Bd. 1: 1847-1906 (Herford: Koehler, 1979), pp. 28, 49.

Ellis Island images and CGSI certificate images are from the private collection of the author.

Husband: **JÁN KUTARNYA**

Baptized:	15 December 1815	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
Married:	7 February 1861	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
Died:	2 May 1881	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
Buried:	<i>Spisská Stará Ves cintorin</i>	
Father:	MICHAL KUTARNYA	
Mother:	ANNA KULTON	

Wife: **ANNA VYROSZTEK**

Baptized:	22 April 1830	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
Died:	11 May 1887	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
Buried:	<i>Spisská Stará Ves cintorin</i>	
Father:	JÁN VYROSZTEK	
Mother:	MÁRIA KOPITNIK	

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) JOZEF JÁN KUTARNYA	4 January 1862	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
2) ANNA KUTARNYA	6 February 1864	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
3) MÁRIA KUTARNYA	22 August 1865	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary ¹
4) JÁN KUTARNYA	10 March 1866	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
5) ANNA KUTARNYA	29 May 1868	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

The KUTARNYA family comes from an area on the southern slopes of the High Tatra Mountains of the Carpathian range. Until 1919 this was the part of the Kingdom of Hungary called Upper Hungary; Czech and Slovak defined people, not areas. I have used Slovak place names and given names where possible as this is how our ancestors would have identified themselves for the most part. Stará Ves is located in the *kraj* (county) of Spis in the eastern part of Upper Hungary that would become the Slovak Republic. When naming some towns both the town name and county name is used, thus Stará Ves in the county of Spis becomes *Spisská Stará Ves*. The Hungarian equivalent of Stará Ves is Ófalu, both mean *Old Town*; the Hungarian form for the *megye* (county) is Szepes, thus *Spisská Stará Ves* becomes *Szepesófalu*. Besides these two, the German language was used as well because there was a heavy Germanic influence brought to bear beginning with the ascension to the Imperial dignity by the Germanic ruling house of Austria – the HABSBURGS – in 1699. Altstadt, also meaning Old Town, is the German name of the town while Zips is their version of Spis. Unlike the Slovak and Hungarian versions there was no tradition of using both town and county to name a place so records in German refer to Altstadt alone. Occasionally records call this area *Slezko*, this is a reference to the old area of *Silesia*.

So just how did this village become “Old Town”? The answer seems to be: by accident! *Stará Ves* is old, but not the oldest; in fact Nova Ves (New Town) has a longer recorded history, which is the first clue to something being amiss. Another fact is that no town at the time of

¹ Birth date obtained from marriage license of Mary Kutarnia and Andrew Fabian, Docket #6, No.3167, Luzerne Co., Pa.; birthplace obtained from St. Steven's church records of same marriage. Other vital statistics obtained from records of the Archives of the Slovak Socialist Republic at Levoca.

founding is called “Old Town” yet the earliest records call it just that – *Villa Antiqua* in Latin. A plausible, if not probable, explanation is that an early, very early – before the 1241 invasions of the Tartar tribes that destroyed the written records – land owner was named ALDO or ADALO. He named the town after himself – either *Adalostadt* or *Aldodorf* or something similar. With the passage of the centuries the inhabitants forgot the town’s founder and started calling the town *Altendorf*, a name which made sense. The Germanic *Altendorf* was easily translated into the Hungarian *Ófalu* and the Slovak *Stará Ves*.

This area has changed considerably since the time our great-grandfather left. In 1919 the Treaty of Trianon created a separate country from Upper Hungary by combining Slovakia and Czechy into one - Czechoslovakia. In 1993 the separate Slovak Republic came into existence. Stará Ves is located 23 miles northeast of the city of Poprad, in Vychodoslovensky (Eastern Slovakia). The population has remained steady since the 1950s hovering around 1,300. Thus our ancestors are *Slovak* by ethnicity; *Hungarian* by nationality and *Ukrainian* by ancestry.

Specific information about this couple is scant so I am taking this opportunity to include some of the cultural and ethnic practices that were a part of their lives.

JÁN was 46 when he married the 31 year old ANNA. It would be highly unusual for a man to remain a bachelor for so long a time and the fact of a prior marriage is documented in the marriage register for he is referred to as being a widower. Other than this, no information about this first marriage has come to light. Prior to this first marriage, as a bachelor, JÁN’S clothing would have been ornate and brightly colored. Hats would have been decorated with plumes, ribbons and tassels. These were toned down with marriage and his clothing would be more sedate from then on.



In the marriage register entry for his second marriage, JÁN KUTARNYA is listed as a widower, 48 years old and living at No. 97 in Ófalu. ANNA VIROSZTEK is listed as 28 years old, living at No. 165 in Ófalu. Witnesses were MICHAL FABIAN and ANTON KOHUT. As ANNA was not listed as a widower we may assume this was her first marriage. As such, she would have had to go through the *Capping* ceremony. An unmarried girl wore a floral wreath over her hair for festive occasions. During her wedding, three *svatobná kopie* (scarves) adorned the wreath: one came from her mother MÁRIA VIROSZTEK to be used while working; a second came from her Godmother KATARINA BRINDZKA to be used only on Sundays; the third came from her soon-to-be mother-in-law ANNA

KUTARNYA to only be used during periods of mourning. After the wedding the wreath was removed and replaced with a matron's cap, which hid her hair which was considered magical and marked her as a married woman. At this ceremony, the bridesmaids sang songs mourning the loss of girlhood while the matrons sang songs to welcome her to the rank of married women. Her hairstyle would have changed also, from one hanging braid to two coiled ones on top of her head and covered with a kerchief. The best man and bridegroom would wear red and white striped linen cloths draped over one shoulder and tied at the waist on the opposite side. A square cloth embroidered with hearts, flowers, the couple's initials and the wedding date would tie their hands together while they were marched around a table three times to signify their joining for life. Their wedding ring would be stored in a chest, not worn, as it was a sacred object, being consecrated by a priest.

The Slovak people were regarded as second class citizens by the ruling Magyars. The division of the Hapsburg Empire in 1867 heralded increased oppression of Slovaks. Use of their

language in education and government was stopped. Slovak cultural activities, including festivals dating back centuries, were forbidden. They lost their civil rights, they were taxed without representation and they were not allowed to hold a public assembly. The 1880 socioeconomic situation in middle Europe was in a state of flux, the stock market having "crashed" in 1873 and the area being subjected to the "industrial revolution." The farm workers were becoming displaced and this may have been the impetus for their children emigrating.

As this is this last generation of our Slovak progenitors to spend their entire lives in Slovakia, it is fitting to illuminate their customs further. The beginning of the New Year was a significant event. On New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, they believed they could tap into special powers enabling them to make prophecies. Sneezing on New Year's morning meant you would live throughout the year. If a girl fell down three times during the day because of frost, or heard a man's name three times during the Church sermon, she could expect a proposal and wedding. Slovak behavior on January 1st foretold the year: an angry person would be in a bad mood all year, if you broke something you could expect that to continue until the next year. In some areas the villagers covered their windows so that whatever was said in the house would not spread across the village. Cleanliness was the order of the day, scraps must be removed or else someone in the house would be "swept away" and die. No extra work was allowed, if a person washed and hung up underwear, they would die by hanging or some other horrible death. Sewing on New Year's Day would cause chickens to stop laying eggs. In Spis it was great luck to find a horseshoe and nail it to the threshold of the stable. To insure plenty of eggs, villagers threw peas to the chickens. Your first visitor foretold your relationship with others: a pleasant one meant good business and socializing throughout the year.

Another tradition is the celebration of saints *name days* or *feast days* almost as important as a birthday. On this day, you honored the saint that bore your name. Frequently you received the name of the saint on whose feast day you were born.

Clothing was used to identify the social group a person belonged to. The men's jacket lapels would vary in color for each village and with their station in life. Females used shawls for warmth and protection, but beyond that, they were markers of significant events in one's life. Varying by village, these shawls were embroidered with symbols and generally called *plachty* and may be used as a bridal shawl, christening cloth or bed curtains. In Spis, the very rare 5-piece cloth was common. They were usually linen and in Spis, woven with red stripes. Red being an ancient protective color, sick children were given red ribbons for a speedy recovery. The *plachty* were full of symbols asking for the protection of the MOTHER GODDESS BOHYNKA. Stylized in later years because of fear of censure by the Church, the GODDESS often appeared as a vase of flowers or a tree of life, and she was usually flanked by a pair of birds, the ancient symbol of the soul. Roosters and reindeer were fertility symbols. Bed curtains had magical powers and protected from evil spirits. They were hung from the beams in front of the bed or tented over the bed. They were strewn with healing herbs and sometimes had a cross of garlic. Sharp objects were sewn into them to help repel the evil spirits. After giving birth, the new mother could only be visited by the godmother for the first six weeks - no husband or children allowed.

It is not known how much of these traditions applied to our KUTARNYA family, but as Spis was a relatively isolated area with small villages, tradition and culture were very important and we can surmise that they were familiar with them all.

After they married they took up residence at No. 63 in *Stará Ves* where they are found for all four children's baptisms. Somewhat unexpectedly, they can not be identified in the 1869

Population Census for Hungary; they are not at No. 63. Even more unexpectedly, next door at No. 62 a family with parents JÁN and ANNA KUTARNYA and three children named JOZEF, ANNA and MÁRIA – all about the right age – are living. Given that their 4th child JÁN died before the census, it is easy to assume that their 5th child died and the family moved next door. However, perhaps the most unanticipated piece of information is that ANNA'S is stated to be JÁN'S wife whose name before marrying was ANNA KOPITNIK! Perhaps this is an indication of an earlier marriage for her though the marriage register does not reveal one nor mention one when she married JÁN. Was the census taker recording a maiden name or a previous name? We do not know so we are left to ponder the possible answers. However it is a safe assumption that this is the correct family, given the absence of any other's that remotely come close to our ancestral couple and the small size of the village – just 188 residences in 1869.²

JÁN died of *senile marasmus* (general physical and mental deterioration) on 2 May 1881 and ANNA of *catarrhal pneumonia* on 11 May 1887. Both are interred at the *Spisská Stará Ves cintorin*.

Issue:

- 1) **JOZEF JÁN KUTARNYA:** baptized 6 January 1862, a date later used as his birth date. Godparents were ONDREJ FABIAN and ANNA KUTARNYA. He married **KATARINA HASZAY** and emigrated to the U.S. in 1886 with his wife following in 1887. (see separate file)
- 2) **ANNA KUTARNYA:** baptized 7 February 1864, Godparents being ALBERT KUTARNYA and MÁRIA FABIAN. She apparently died young as another daughter born four years later was named ANNA.
- 3) **MÁRIA KUTARNYA:** “MARY” The Slovak State Archives could not find a birth record. She knew her future husband ONDREJ FABIAN from Stará Ves. He left for Plymouth in 1886 as had Mary's brother JOZEF and she followed in 1887, as did her sister-in-law (and JOZEF'S wife) KATARINA. She settled in Plymouth, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and married ONDREJ FABIAN (born 2 August 1868, Spisská Stará Ves, son of MARTIN FABIAN and ANNA DEMSKY) on 24 October 1887 at *Saint Steven's Church* which she helped to found (County records reflect 26 October 1887). Communication from REVEREND JOHN FABIAN at *Saint Steven's Church* in Plymouth indicates that MARY was *born in Stara Ves, Szepes, Hungaria; daughter of JOHN KUTARNIA and ANNA VIROSTEK*. ONDREJ has been illusive in records from Stará Ves however a MARTIN FABIAN appears as a witness to the marriage of JOSEF KUTARNYA and MARIA DEMSKY on 23 January 1884 as well as witnessing two other marriages, one on 11 November 1883 and the other on 3 March 1884. The 1900 census of Plymouth Township gives the following information: born September 1868, in Hungary and emigrated in 1885.³ The 1910 census of Larksville borough has ANDREW and MARY at 106 Howard Street with MARY speaking *Slovenia*. ANDREW appears to have worked



² 1869 Population Census of Hungary, Szepes megye, O'falu, house number 62.

³ 1900 US Census: Luzerne Co., Pa., Plymouth Twp., 16/18 June 1900, p. 26, family 450, dwelling 434, lines 67-75, ED 132.

in the local coal mines.⁴ ANDREW FABIAN signed a statement for the National Slovak Society in 1933 which said he knew that KATARINA KUTARNIA had been married for 45 years. MARY, living at 116 Broadway, died 17 October 1939 from a hemorrhagic stroke and was interred at *Saint Stephen's (death certificate) or Saint George's (obit) Cemetery* in Lehman, Luzerne Co. Her obituary from the *Wilkes-Barre Record* follows:⁵

Slovak Church Founder Dies:

MARY FABIAN was Mother of Late Larksville Physician

MRS. MARY FABIAN, mother of 12 children, died yesterday afternoon at 5:55 at her home, Fabian's Grove, Larksville, following a brief illness. She was one of the founders of St. Stephen's Slovak Church, Plymouth, and was the mother of the late DR. A. A. FABIAN, Larksville. Deceased was a lifelong resident of Larksville.

Besides her husband, ANDREW, she is survived by these children, STEPHEN M., FRANK E., MARTIN C., GEORGE B. AND ELIZABETH V. FABIAN, Plymouth; JOHN A., Trucksville; JOSEPH A., Nanticoke; MRS. STEPHEN J. SHEFTZ, Larksville; MRS. JOSEPH J. KRANKOTA, Detroit; ANTHONY M., Detroit; EDWARD S. Langley Field, Va.; also 24 grandchildren and one great grandchild. MRS. FABIAN was the grandmother of PRIVATE ANDREW A. FABIAN, member of Pennsylvania State Police, Wyoming Barracks.

ANDREW continued to live at 116 Broadway in Larksville, residing there where he died from cancer on 24 December 1946. He was interred with wife presumably. They had fifteen or sixteen children:

- a) ANDREW A. FABIAN: born 29 August 1888; died 2 November 1933.
- b) MARY FABIAN: born 3 February 1890; died 3 September 1890.
- c) STEPHEN FABIAN: born 1 June 1891; died 14 August 1965.
- d) JOHN FABIAN: born 3 March 1893; worked in the coalmines; died 27 December 1980.
- e) ANNA MARY FABIAN: born 18 September 1895; died 2 October 1974.
- f) JOSEPH A. FABIAN: born 19 October 1896; died 22 January 1945.
- g) MARGUERITE FABIAN: "MARGARET" born 28 May 1898; died 11 August 1990
- h) ANTHONY FABIAN: born 8 February 1900; died 4 June 1895.
- i) (MALE) FABIAN: a son was probably born and died before 1900.
- j) SUSAN FABIAN: born 6 September 1901; died 23 March 1993.
- k) FRANK FABIAN: born 25 April 1903; died 14 October 1988.
- l) GEORGE FABIAN: born 22 February 1905; died 4 November 1972.
- m) MARTIN CYRIL FABIAN: born 10 November 1906; died 31 January 1983.
- n) ELIZABETH FABIAN: born 1 November 1909; died April 1991.
- o) (MALE) FABIAN: stillborn 1911.
- p) EDWARD SEBASTIAN FABIAN: born 23 August 1913; died 7 July 1971.⁶

For ANDREW and MARY'S descendants, refer to works of JULIA R. BARRETT (3510 Cross St.,

⁴ 1910 US Census: Luzerne Co., Pa., Larksville Borough, 18 April 1910, p. 6b, family 104, dwelling 66, lines 87-100, ED 65.

⁵ *Wilkes-Barre Record*, 18 October 1939, page 12; Fabian, Mary, certificate of death, No. 90806, Luzerne County, PA.

⁶ Edward's years of birth and death from Janet Fabian Burd. She corroborates the unnamed male child the was born and died prior to 1900 as well.

Madison, WI 53711) and of STEPHEN FABIAN in author's possession.

- 4) JÁN KUTARNYA: baptized 12 March 1866, Godparents were the same ones ANNA had: ALBERT KUTARNYA and MÁRIA FABIAN. He died 2 August 1867.
 - 5) ANNA KUTARNYA: baptized 30 May 1868, Godparents were the same ones JOZEF had: ONDREJ FABIAN and ANNA KUTARNYA. Given her absence in the 1869 census, perhaps she too dies at a young age.
-

Husband: **MICHAL KUTARNYA**

Born:

Married:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Wife: **ANNA KULTON**

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Issue:	Baptized:	Where:
1. ONDREJ KUTARNYA	2 November 1805	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
2. JÁN KUTARNYA	15 December 1815	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

They were living in Stará Ves (Ófalu) for the birth of the sons and probably lived there all their lives. A preliminary search of archival records confirmed only two children though there were undoubtedly more.

Stará Ves translates as "Old town" which is a misnomer; Spisská Nova Ves (New Town) is actually older. To explain: the Germanic equivalent of Stará Ves is *Altenstadt* or *Altendorf*. The town is believed to have been named after a German landholder of the name ALDO or ADALO. "Aldo's town" becomes *Aldodorf*. As use of the German language declined, the name of the town changed from *Aldodorf*, which didn't make much sense unless the history of the town was known; to *Altendorf*, which seemed plausible and is found in the 1869 census. The local languages, utilizing a strict translation of *Old Town* called the town *Stará Ves* in Slovak and *Ófalu* in Magyar.

Though younger in age than Spisská Nova Ves, we may still consider it old as there is mention of a settlement here as early as 800 CE during the reign of CHARLEMAGNE. At that time it belonged to the BERZEVICZY family. By 1108 it is found on maps with the Magyar name *Ófalu*. In the subsequent century, invasions and disease decimated the area for over a hundred years. It was repopulated around 1308 and was called *Antiqua Villa*, *Ófalu* and *Altendorf*. In 1330, the MAYOR HENRY sold his ancestral rights of office to the Carthusian monks of the nearby *Cervený Klastor* (Red Cloister). In June of each year there is a festival celebrating the Zamagurie culture at the Cloister. In 1337, COUNT WILLIAM DRUGETH bestowed on the Cloister the entire area. From 1412 to 1772, several of the Spis towns were mortgaged to Poland to help finance the EMPEROR SIGISMUND'S war with Venice. Spis represents the original "free cities" founded in 1750 in Magyar-occupied Slovakia by German colonists. As part of the Unterzips (Upper Zips) German towns, Spolocenstvo Spisskych Sasov, the "Zips League" or "Zipser Bund" in German; was governed by the Zipser Willkur, a civil and commercial legal system

modeled after that of Magdeburg, Germany. Stará Ves was not one of the Zipserbund towns.

The KULTON line may have originated in Prussia as some with this surname have claimed. The KUTARNYA surname is apparently of Ukrainian origins. The Ukraine is supposedly the only place where a common surname ending is *-nya*. That plus the fact that *kut* means corner in Ukrainian is the best option to date. If the KUTARNYA family did indeed come from the Ukraine then they were a part of the *Rusyn* population in Upper Hungary. *Rusyns* were Ukrainians that settled in the Carpathian Mountains of today's Slovak Republic. In the US, the largest *Rusyn* fraternal organization is the *Greek Catholic Union of the Rusyn Brotherhood*. In the 1920s, MICHAL's great-granddaughter, ANNA KUTARNIA SMITH, joined the brotherhood, listing her religious affiliation as Greek Catholic, though she was a devout Roman Catholic. She may have revealed her Ukrainian ancestry by joining this Rusyn organization and brought back to life the KUTARNYA heritage.

MICHAL is not found in the 1828 census for Stará Ves. ONDREJ KUTARNYA is listed, as is a JOSEF KUTARNYA who may have been a brother. Also listed is a JÁN KULTON who may be related to ANNA.¹ In the 1869 census a contemporary of MICHAL is found living at No. 116 with ALBERT KUTARNIA (born 1832). Unfortunately the name is hard to decipher – it appears to be an abbreviated given name: “*TEMDO.*” or “*JEMDO.*” KUTARNIA, who was born in 1798.

Issue:

1. **ONDREJ KUTARNYA:** his Godparents were MICHAL KRUPA and HEDVIGUS ZADIORA. As mentioned above, ONDREJ appears in the 1828 census as No. 41. The information given states there are two persons between 18 and 60 years old, that they are inhabitants of the city and that ONDREJ has 1 cow.
2. **JÁN KUTARNYA:** he had the same Godparents as his brother: MICHAL KRUPA and HEDVIGUS ZADIORA. He was married sometime before 1861; that marriage ended when his wife died. He probably married when he was around 25 years old – a good range would be 1835 to 1845; along with a wife there probably were some children but nothing is known for certain. He does not appear in the 1828 census for Stará Ves as he was too young, just 13, to qualify as head of a household. He married ANNA VIROSZTEK on 7 February 1861. Their story continues in a separate file.

¹ Czechoslovakia Census of the Taxable Population, 1828, pp.564-565, Szepes, Ofalu. Microfilm available through Latter Day Saints Genealogical Library (No.0623104)

Husband's Name:

JOSEF HASZAY

Born:

Spisská Ľ Majer, Hungary

Bapt: 2 February 1823

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

Married: 9 February 1843

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

Died:

Buried:

Father: ŠIMON HASZAY

Mother: MÁRIA VOJTAS

Wife's Name:

MÁRIA ZADYORA

Bapt: 16 March 1819

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother: ANNA ZADYORA

Issue:

Born:

Where:

1) FRANZ HASZAY	1847	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
2) SOPHIA HASZAY	1849	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
3) JAN HASZAY	1851	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
4) MARIA HASZAY	1853	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
5) ANNA HASZAY	1857	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary
6) KATARINA HASZAY	30 December 1859	Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

The name HASZAY is sometimes spelled HASSAY and the name ZADYORA is sometimes spelled ZADIORA and ZAGYORA.

They were married in a double ceremony in Spisská Stará Ves conducted by PAVOL BASZISZTA. JOSEF'S older brother JÁN married MÁRIA'S younger sister KATARINA ZADYORA. The Parish Marriage Register, written in Latin, includes abbreviations before the grooms and brides names. JOSEF and JÁN are *juv*, short for *juvenis*, meaning young man. KATARINA has *virgo* which literally translates as virgin but was used to designate (1) a young woman, (2) a woman who had never been married and/or (3) a virgin. MARIA'S name is preceded by *defl*, short for *deflorata*, literally deflowered, meaning she was not a virgin when she married. How did FATHER BASZISZTA happen to know this seemingly intimate fact? She probably had a child out of wedlock. Unfortunately a review of the Baptismal Registers has not turned up such a child. Witnesses were ANTON KOHÚT and JÁN KOLLER. Both couples would have announced their betrothal at Church on a Sunday after which they would walk through Spisská Stará Ves and Spisská Ľ Majer inviting friends and family to the upcoming wedding. They may have been accompanied by an escort or a musician through the villages. Weddings were held on Mondays or Thursdays, in this case it was on Thursday. On Wednesday evening, the 8th of February, the

couples would host a *obigraľky* – a dance lasting all night – for the guests; the brides and grooms stopped at midnight. In the morning hours of their wedding day they would visit their parent's homes and bid farewell to their single life. The wedding would follow at the Church and then a reception would usually begin at the home of the bride's parents and continue at the groom's until midnight. Then on Friday the 10th all the relatives would gather for a celebratory feast. Of course the presence of MARIA'S young child (assuming that's how the Priest knew she wasn't virginal) may have put a damper on the festivities.

After their marriage they lived at No. 19 in Spisská Ľ Majer where they are found in the 1869 census. The names of 6 of what are most likely their children are found in that record however two have their data lined through: FRANZ and MARIA. More research is necessary to determine why that is. Of note is the absence of any child of MARIA'S she may have had before marrying – of course that child would be 26 years old and probably married by this time. An oddity appears in that *Altendorf* is given as the place of birth which is the German name of neighboring Ófalu. This is not consistent throughout as Ófalu is used with other entries. Their home is described as being single story with 1 bedroom and an indoor pantry. There is also a stall and a pen to hold their livestock which included a cow, 2 oxen, 5 sheep and 2 pigs.

Issue:

- 1) **KATARINA HASZAY**: christened 1 January 1860 in Spisská Stará Ves by PAVOL BASZISZTA. Her Godparents were JÁN and MÁRIA (OGIBOVITS) SZOJA. She married **JOSEF KUTARNYA** on 25 June 1884. (continued in separate file)

Husband's Name:

ŠIMON HASZAY

Bapt:

Married:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Wife's Name:

MÁRIA VOJTAS

Bapt:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Issue:

Baptized:

Where:

1) MÁRIA HASZAY

5 December 1814

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

2) KATARINA HASZAY

29 July 1816

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

3) JÁN HASZAY

25 April 1819

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

4) **JOSEF HASZAY**

2 February 1823

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

The family lived in Majere, a hamlet of about a hundred residents on the south bank of the Dunajec River that serves to separate the Slovak Republic from Poland. Only about a mile north of Spisská Stará Ves it has never warranted a village church. In most official records it is considered more a suburb or section of Spisská Stará Ves than a village in its own right.

The hamlet has been named Majere since 1948; between 1927 and 1948 it was Alter-Meierei; it was Vyšné Šváby between 1913 and 1927; it was Ő Majer between 1863 and 1913; Vyšné Šváby again between 1798 and 1863; Ő Majer again between 1786 and 1798 and before that it was only a manor house named Starý Majer.



The family had their children christened at the nearest church in Spisská Stará Ves. The church registers of Spisská Stará Ves do not list a marriage for ŠIMON and MÁRIA. Perhaps they were married elsewhere. ŠIMON is found as SIMEON HASSAI in the 1828 census at No. 6 in Ő Majer. The household had 2 18-60 year olds (an exact match as none of their children had reached 18 yet), 3 cows and 2 sheep.¹

¹ 1828 Census, Szepes, Ő Majer p. 524

Issue:

- 1) MÁRIA HASZAY: She was baptized in Spisská Stará Ves by JOZEF MICHELY. Godparents were FRANTIŠEK BOBEK and ANNA TRIPSKÁ. In the 1869 census of Ů Majer two people with the name MÁRIA HASSAI are living at No. 9 and either one could be the correct MÁRIA. The first is the wife of JÁN SCORUPA who was born in 1817 and the second is an unmarried MÁRIA HASSAI who was born in 1815 and seems to have helped with the livestock. Lacking additional information, it is impossible to establish if either one was the daughter of ŠIMON and MÁRIA.
- 2) KATARINA HASZAY: She was baptized in Spisská Stará Ves by JOZEF MICHELY. Godparents were FRANTIŠEK BOBEK and ANNA TRIBSKÁ.
- 3) JÁN HASZAY: He was baptized in Spisská Stará Ves by JOZEF MICHELY. Godparents were FRANTIŠEK TRIBSKY and JOZEFINA BOBEKOVA. He married KATARINA ZADYORA (born 1821) on 9 February 1843 in Spisská Stará Ves by PAVOL BASZISTA in a double ceremony with his brother JOSEF. Witnesses were ANTON KOHUT and JÁN KOLLER. They were living at No.11 in Ů Majer in 1862 but are no longer found there in 1869.
 - a) JÁN HASZAY: born 11 January 1862 to JÁN HASZAY and KATARINA ZADYORA of Majere. He was baptized on 13 January 1862 by PAVOL BASZISZTA, with Godparents being JÁN GRUTKA and KATARINA DERMA. He died on 4 April 1867.
- 4) JOSEF HASZAY: He was baptized in Spisská Stará Ves. Godparents were FRANTIŠEK BOBEK and MÁRIA TRIBSKA. He married MÁRIA ZADYORA (baptized 16 March 1819) on 9 February 1843 in Spisská Stará Ves in the above mentioned double ceremony. Their story continues in a separate file.

Husband's Name: **JAN VÝROSTEK**

Born:

Married:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Wife's Name: **MARIA KOPITNIK**

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Father:

Mother:

Issue:

Baptized:

Where:

1) **ANNA VÝROSTEK**

2 April 1830

Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary

In the 1828 census for Spisská Stará Ves, there are two listings that could be our subject. The first is JÁN VIROSTEK, SENIOR at #43 who has only him and a daughter, both between 18 and 60 years old, in the household. The second is for JÁN WIROSTEK, JUNIOR at #71, which lists two residents between 18 and 60 years of age and no daughter.¹ The use of *Senior* and *Junior* by the census taker to identify different persons seems to indicate that the residents at #'s 43 and 71 were father and son, in spite of the different spelling of the surnames. Unfortunately, with the limited amount known, it's impossible to determine if either one is the correct person. WIROSTEK, JUNIOR is the more likely as the census tallies correctly if it included just him and his wife. VIROSTEK, SENIOR *could be* correct if ANNA had an older sister who was counted with her father but in this instance we are left to wonder just where the wife/mother was as we know she was alive two years later when she gave birth to ANNA. By 1869 occupants of both places had changed: #43 had the SZAK family and #71 was empty. Another 1828 listing could be relative: the *vidua* KOPITNIK lived at #48; perhaps she was MÁRIA's mother.

JÁN and MÁRIA were living at #165 in Spisská Stará Ves when their daughter married in 1861 but they do not appear in the 1869 census. TOMAS WIROSTEK, born in 1830, was living at #50 in Spisská Stará Ves during that census; he is possibly a brother of ANNA's. In a similar manner JÁN, son of ANDREJ KUTARNÝA and SOFIA VIROSTEK, was baptized on 11 May 1830 with godparents being JÁN KRUPKA and KATARINA VIROSTEK. As a parent in the child-bearing years, SOFIA could be JÁN's brother. ANDREJ KUTARNÝA and SOFIA VIROSTEK lived at #41.

¹ Census of the Taxable Population of Szepes County, Hungary, 1828, Stara Ves, pp.565-566, Numbers 43 and 71.

Issue:

- 1) **ANNA VÝROSTEK**: baptized on 2 April 1830, Godparents being ANTON PISARCIK and KATARINA BRINDZKA. She married **JÁN KUTARŇA** on 7 February 1861. (continued in separate file)

NOTES:

Virostek & Grutka families in Newark, NJ:

John Joseph Virostek: born 23 October 1898 Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne Co., Pa.; parents unknown; married Anna Grutka on 26 November 1933 at Most Holy Trinity Church in Yonkers, NY. No Virosztek, Virostek, Wirostek found in 1900 Luzerne Co.

Anna Grutka: born 30 May 1899, daughter of Mary & ? Grutka. Emigrated *at age 16 from Stará Ves, Czechoslovakia*. Between 1933 and 1942 they lived in Newark, then Delmar Pl., Irvington, NJ. John worked for Public Service Bus Co. and Anna for Irvington Varnish, then 3M Co. John Virostek died 25 October 1949. Anna (Grutka) Virostek died 15 December 1988. They had 3 daughters:

1. Anna Marie Virostek: born 1934; married name Clyme; living in Greensboro, N.C.
2. Bernadine Virostek: born 1937; married name Krause; living at 21 Troy Lane, Short Hills, NJ 07078
3. Irene Virostek: born 1938; married name Rothfuss; she died 16 February 1988 in Union, NJ

Mary Grutka: husband unknown, killed in house fire. 5 children:

1. Anna Grutka: see above.
2. *sister* Grutka: killed in house fire
3. Mary Grutka: married name Pisarcik
4. Katherine Grutka: *deceased*
5. *sister* Grutka

Jacob and Sophia Virostek (Werostek) of Allegheny Co, Pa had a son John, born May 1896 but this John was still single in 1940, 7 years after marrying Mary.

Joseph (born May 1866) and Annie (born August 1876) Wirostek are enumerated in 1900 in the Morning Sun Election District of Allegheny Tp, Westmoreland Co, PA. They had daughter Annie, born June 1898 and son John, born February 1900. They were married in 1897. (ED 75, p. 43B, Ins 92-95; dw796, fa843)

Virostek, Grutka and Pisarcik appear in records of Stará Ves; the families knew each other for years and probably were related through marriage over the years.

Wife's Name:

ANNA ZADYORA

Issue:

Baptized

Where:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. MÁRIA ZADYORA | 16 March 1819 | Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary |
| 2. KATARINA ZADYORA | 1821 | Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary |
| 3. JAKUB ZADYORA | 25 April 1830 | Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary |

Not much is known about this family group. Written under the heading *Natus Parenti* (Birth Parents) in the Baptismal Register for MÁRIA's baptism is *O.' Parenz* and *ANNA ZADYORA*. The meaning of the first part has not been found yet. Likewise, the baptismal entry for JAKUB has only ANNA ZADYORA listed under parents. Obviously, from this information alone, we can not be certain that MÁRIA and JAKUB are siblings. ANNA ZADYORA appears as godmother, with JÁN FABIAN as godfather, for the baptism of ALBERT LOVINSKI, son of *LADHA. LOVINSKI*, another single-parent entry.

In the 1828 census in Spisská Stará Ves, Hungary, there appear three persons with this name: JOSEF ZADYORA at #1, ALBERT ZADYORA at #19 and MARTIN ZADYORA at #42. The connections between these and ANNA are not known at this time but MÁRIA ZADYORA did live at #19 after she married JOSEF HASZAY in 1843.

Issue:

1. **MÁRIA ZADYORA**: baptized on 16 March 1819 by JOZEF MICHELY, sponsors were FRANTIŠEK and ZOFIA (BERNARD) MANDUS. She was married to **JOSEF HASZAY** of Ő Majer, son of ŠIMON HASZAY and MÁRIA VOJTAS, on 9 February 1843 by PAVOL BASZISZTA. MARIA's name in the Parish Marriage Register is preceded by the Latin *defl*, short for *deflorata*, literally deflowered, meaning she was not a virgin when she married. How did FATHER BASZISZTA happen to know this seemingly intimate fact? She probably had a child out of wedlock. Unfortunately a review of the Baptismal Registers has not turned up such a child. Their story is continued in a separate file.
2. KATARINA ZADYORA: married JÁN HASZAY (baptized 25 April 1819), older brother of JOSEF, on 9 February 1843. They were living at #11 in Ő Majer in 1862 but they are not found in Ő Majer or Stará Ves in the 1869 census.
 - a. JÁN HASZAY: born 11 January 1862 to JÁN HASZAY and KATARINA ZADYORA of Ő Majer. He was baptized on 13 January 1862 by PAVOL BASZISZTA; Godparents were JÁN GRUTKA and KATARINA DERMA. He died on 4 April 1867.
3. JAKUB ZADYORA: godparents were MICHAL FABIAN and BORBALA GORILOVIC.

Husband: **HENRY GARRETSON**
 Born: *Thought to be from a German country.*
 Married:
 Died: 1799-1806 Freehold Township, Monmouth County, NJ
 Buried: *Upper Freehold Baptist Cemetery, nr. Imlaystown, Monmouth Co.*
 Father:
 Mother:

Wife: **SUSANNAH**
 Born:
 Died: 1825
 Buried: *Upper Freehold Baptist Cemetery, nr. Imlaystown, Monmouth Co.*
 Father:
 Mother:

Issue:	Born:	Notes:
1) ELIZABETH GARRETSON		married THOMAS NUTT 5 April 1807
2) NANCY/ANNE GARRETSON	1777	"of New York"
3) DANIEL GARRETSON		
4) HANNAH GARRETSON		
5) HENRY GARRETSON		wife DEBORAH

It appears that this family is from New York. They owned, and probably lived on, property in Monmouth Co., NJ from the late 1700's. The 1793 NJ Military Census lists HENRY GARRISON and a LEWIS GARRISON as members of the Monmouth Militia from the 6th District of Freehold Twp.¹ This is the same district where PETER PERRINE, HENRY'S son-in-law is listed.

The only SUSANNAH GARRISON found to date in pre-1800 records is the daughter of LEVI VINCENT of Newark, Essex County; this is not our subject.

The family was affiliated with the Church of Christ at Crosswicks which has since become the Upper Freehold Baptist Church. The minutes of the Church meeting of 27 September 1797 states that on 30 September (which means the date is for the start of the recorded minutes, not the whole section) *after Sermon HENRY GARRETSON and SILVIA PRINCE related there mind in regard to Baptism Before the Church and Congregation. The Church approved of there Exercise and they where Baptised next day and received in the Church.* The Church book concurs with the entry *HENRY GARRETSON baptized Sept. 30, 1797 deceased.* On 3 January 1798, SUSANNAH GARRETSON was *received by Letter*; unfortunately the name of the place she was received from is not given. The Baptist Church at Middletown had dismissed 47 members on 10 May 1776 in order that the Upper Freehold Church could be organized; the records of the mother church need to be examined. The Church book has another notation for SUSANNAH that states *deceased 1825.* HENRY again appears in the minutes of the 6 April 1799 meeting when JEMIMAH HOLDMAN was *baptised at HENRY GARRISONS.*² On 15 October 1826 the daughters *HANNAH GARRISON* and

¹ James S. Norton, *New Jersey in 1793* (1973) page 414.

² Records of the Upper Freehold Baptist Church, Imlaystown, NJ 08626. The early building, now known as the Old Yellow Meeting House, built in 1737, is located on Yellow Meeting Rd. about 3 miles east of Imlaystown. This is the location of the

NANSEY PARINE were baptized. The book also states that *HANNAH* died July 1831 and *NANCY* in October 1830.³

HENRY and *SUSANNAH* lived in the same area as *DANIEL* and *SARAH PERRINE* as both their houses are listed as being on land next to the same tract near *ELISHA LAWRENCE*'s sawmill in 1798.⁴ There are indications of a tract of land containing 100.16 acres tract being 'returned' to *HENRY*'s heirs by *DR. ELISHA NEWALL*'s heirs, on 12 December 1811 as detailed below. *ELISHA NEWELL*, a physician, lived in Allentown. His heirs selected *SAMUEL COOKE NEWALL*, of Allentown, to represent them in property transactions in 1814. A search through the Monmouth County Grantor and Grantee indexes as well as all deeds recorded in December 1811 (Book V) did not reveal any entry for this/these transactions. This land was *on the road to Irish Mills* in Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County at the time.

After the death of *HENRY*, *SUSANNAH* married *DANIEL PERRINE* on 21 May 1806 in Freehold Township.⁵ *DANIEL* died 1 August 1819 and was interred in the *Perrine and Holman Family burying ground* which is usually, but incorrectly, called *Holmansville Presbyterian Cemetery*.

On 5 April 1807 *ELIZABETH GARRISON* and *THOMAS NUTT*, both of Burlington County, were married, possibly in Trenton.

On 30 August 1824 *HENRY*'s widow *SUSANNAH* sold 4.35 acres in the southeast corner of her 100.16 acre *plantation* in Freehold Township, to *DANIEL LUTTS*.⁶ A *Deed poll* dated 7 December 1829 gives a fair amount of information about *HENRY* and *SUSANNAH GARRETSON*'s children living at that time:

*From the heirs at law of HENRY GARRISON, deceased of Monmouth County - ELIZABETH NUTT, widow of THOMAS, nee GARRISON, of Trenton, New Jersey; PETER PERRINE and wife, NANCY, of Freehold; DANIEL GARRISON of Freehold; HANNAH GARRISON of Freehold; and HENRY GARRISON and DEBORAH his wife of Lebanon Hunterdon County, New Jersey to JOHN MERRICK MALSBUURY of Freehold, a lot or tract of land containing 100 ¹⁶/₁₀₀ acres for the sum of \$350.00, the same being returned to the heirs of HENRY GARRISON, deceased, from the heirs of DOCTOR ELISHA NEWALL on 12/12/1811, with the exception of a lot of about 4 acres conveyed by deed to JOHN SHULTZ by SUSANNAH PERRINE, late widow of HENRY GARRISON, deceased.*⁷

The deed confirms and conveys 4-acres parcel to *JOHN SHULTZ* rather than *DANIEL LUTTS* as found in the 1824 deed with the remainder going to a granddaughter, *ELIZABETH PERRINE*, daughter of *HENRY* and *ZILPHIA PERRINE* and wife to *JOHN MERRICK MALSBUURY*. Neither *SHULTZ* or *LUTTS* appears in the Grantor Index through 1855 and what happened to the 4-acres is not known. *JOHN* and *ELIZABETH* sold the property, located *on the road to Irish Mills*, in Jackson

cemetery too. The church is frequently described as being near Red Valley.

³ Records of the Upper Freehold Baptist Church, "The Church Book," part 2, p. 7.

⁴ East Jersey Surveys, Book S11, Folios 314-315, 5 May 1798.

⁵ Monmouth County Marriages, Vol. A (Freehold), p. 84; Monmouth County Court House, Freehold, NJ

⁶ Monmouth County Deeds, Book K2, p. 71, recorded 8 June 1825.

⁷ Monmouth County Deeds, Book A3, p. 466, recorded 15 December 1829; Monmouth County Court House, Freehold, NJ

Township, Ocean County, to their son JOHN MALSBUY, of Washington Township, Mercer County, on 1 April 1865 for \$1000.00....or not.⁸ Right after JOHN died in December 1867 a second deed-of-sale was hastily drawn up selling the tract to their son JONATHON MALSBUY, of Washington Township, Mercer County, *in consideration of one-thousand five-hundred dollars*. There is no month or date in the deed, only the year of 1860 with a large blank space after the word sixty. Examining the deeds before and after and noting the 1868 recording, it is likely they held bought the property in 1868. This was a poorly executed attempt to avoid probate yet, it worked! JONATHON and his wife ELLEN, now of Jackson Township, did not hold onto the tract very long; they sold it to CHARLES H. APPLGATE and DANIEL R. GOWDY on 2 April 1868 for \$2000.00.⁹

Issue:

ANNE/NANCY GARRETSON: Only information about their daughter ANNE/NANCY has been found. She married **PETER DANIEL PERRINE** (1772 – 1856) on the 12th of February 1809 in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Their story continues on page 174 in the Volume 1 of Our English and Irish Ancestors (BRIAN A. SMITH, D.C. ©2014); URL [Accessed 15 July 2020]: <https://archive.org/details/2014UKVol1Public>

⁸ Ocean County Deeds, Book 32, p. 343, recorded 12 September 1865.

⁹ Ocean County Deeds, Book 43, p. 187, recorded 25 February 1868; Book 43, p. 276, recorded 3 April 1868.

Husband's Name: **JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR**

Born: 1789-1799

Married: January/February 1826 Allentown, Monmouth County, NJ

Died: 23 December 1854

Buried: *Emley's Hill Methodist Episcopal Cemetery, Creamridge, NJ¹*

Father: JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR. (died 1818)

Mother: NANCY THOMAS

Wife's Name: **MARGARET THOMAS**

Born: 10 December 1807 Millstone Township, Monmouth County, NJ

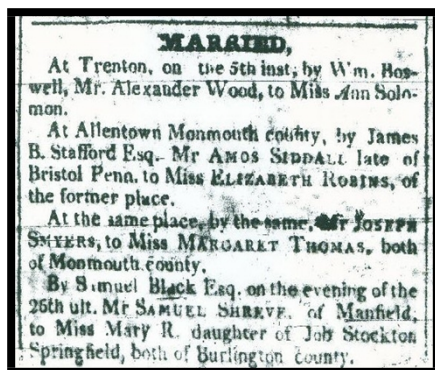
Died: 7 October 1869

Buried: *Emley's Hill Methodist Episcopal Cemetery*

Father: WILLIAM THOMAS, SENIOR (2 November 1779 – 20 March 1850)

Mother: MARY (1785 – 13 September 1854)

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) MARYANN SMIRES	1827	Monmouth County, NJ
2) JOSEPH SMIRES, III	February 1828	NJ
3) WILLIAM SMIRES	20 October 1830	NJ
4) CHARLES SMIRES	13 January 1834	Monmouth County, NJ
5) ROBERT SMIRES	December 1837	NJ
6) JANE SMIRES	c1838	NJ
7) FRANCIS "FANNY" SMIRES	c1840	NJ
8) ELIZABETH SMIRES	c1841	NJ
9) EZEKIEL SMIRES	March 1842	NJ
10) DANIEL C. SMIRES	c1844	NJ



JAMES B. STAFFORD, ESQUIRE performed their wedding ceremony in Allentown. The exact date hasn't been found yet. The wedding announcement to the left, found in the *Daily True American*, a Trenton-based newspaper of the time, does not reveal the date. Two other local newspapers carried the announcement as well, the *Trenton Federalist* and *The Emporium*.²

IN 1819 JOSEPH inherited 55 ⁸/₁₀₀ acres of land according to the terms of the last Will and Testament of his grandfather JOSEPH SMYARS.³ He also inherited a ¹/₆ share in another tract of 59 ⁴⁵/₁₀₀ acres from his grandfather. This tract was

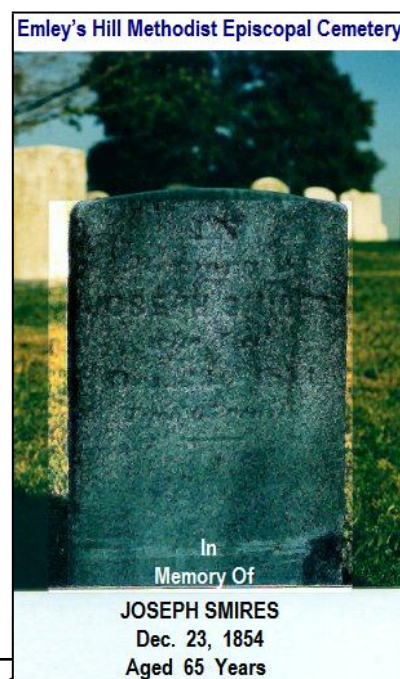
¹ "Emley's Hill Methodist-Episcopal Churchyard - Monmouth County Gravestones," *Genealogical Magazine of NJ* (42:61)

² *Daily True American*, 21 Feb 1826, page 3. *Trenton Federalist*, 20 Feb 1826, page 3. *The Emporium*, 11 Feb 1826, page 3.

purchased by JOSEPH SMYARS on 10 December 1802. On 22 August 1825 JOSEPH sold his $\frac{1}{6}$ share in the second tract to his brother ROBERT SMIRES for \$30.00.⁴

The family appears in the 1840 census in Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County where JOSEPH is a farmer.⁵ At 18 years of age, their daughter MARYANN, of Burlington County, married in 1845. It is not known if she was living away from the family at this time or if the whole family had moved into Burlington County. In a mortgage from 1845 of a neighboring property in Jackson Township comes the best information. In that record the three JOSEPH's are referred to as *SENIOR*, *JUNIOR*, and the *GRANDSON*. At that time JOSEPH SMIRES *the GRANDSON* was living on the farm that *formerly belonged to JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR*. The property had passed from his grandfather to his father JOSEPH and was currently being held by *the heirs and assigns of JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR*. The tract was on or near the Mount Holly Road.⁶ This description identifies the property as the 59.45 acre tract which was divided into 6 equal parts among the heirs. Recall that the 55.08-acre tract had been left to JOSEPH in entirety. JOSEPH had sold his interest in the larger farm in 1825 to his brother so exactly why he was the one to be living there is a puzzle. They were still in Jackson Township, Ocean County in 1850.⁷ This County had just been partially created from portions of Monmouth, so the family may not have physically moved. JOSEPH is shown as a laborer with \$200.00 in real estate. On 8 January 1851 he purchased 2 tracts of land, 7 acres and 18 acres, from RICHARD ROBBINS; these are listed as *lots No. 2 and 3* in later records and are adjacent to his grandfather's land. The combined lots contained about 80 acres. A *J. SMIRS* is shown as an owner of a lot northeast of Prospertown on the 1851 *J.B. Shields* map of Upper Freehold Township. This is probably the same person. The best property description comes from the description of a neighboring property that was mortgaged in 1845.

According to census returns, he was born circa 1799. His grave marker in *Emley's Hill Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* gives his age as 65 years, placing his birth year around 1789. JOSEPH died intestate in 1854. *Letters of Administration* were granted to MARGARET on 17 February 1855 by THOMAS C. HARRISON, Ocean County Surrogate.⁸ An inventory filed on the same date had been done a week earlier by WILLIAM C. HOLDMAN and JAMES STEWARD. It reveals a small, self-contained farm with 8 animals, 2 wagons, 2 plows and a beehive, totaling \$246.50.⁹ An index to the estate records is on file with the Ocean County Court House.¹⁰ On 7 May 1857,



³ Monmouth County Estates, 9335M, Joseph Smires - Inventory, 1819; 9322M, Joseph Smyars, Sr. - will, 1819, inventory, 1820.

⁴ Monmouth County Deeds, Book K2, p.226; recorded Aug.1825

⁵ 1840 US Census: Monmouth County, NJ; Upper Freehold Township, p.220. LDS microfilm T5, roll 81.

⁶ Monmouth County Mortgages, Book N, p. 331, recorded 10 September 1845.

⁷ 1850 US Census: Ocean County, NJ; Jackson Township, 11 Sept. 1850, p.31b, family 186, dwelling 179, lines 5-10..

⁸ Guardianship and Administration records of the Surrogate's Court of Ocean County, NJ. Volume 1, page 17.

⁹ Joseph Smires, Inventory of, 1855, Ocean County, #90-O. At NJ Archives, 185 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625.

¹⁰ Joseph Smires, Index of probate records, Surrogate's Docket of Ocean County, page 82, number 125.

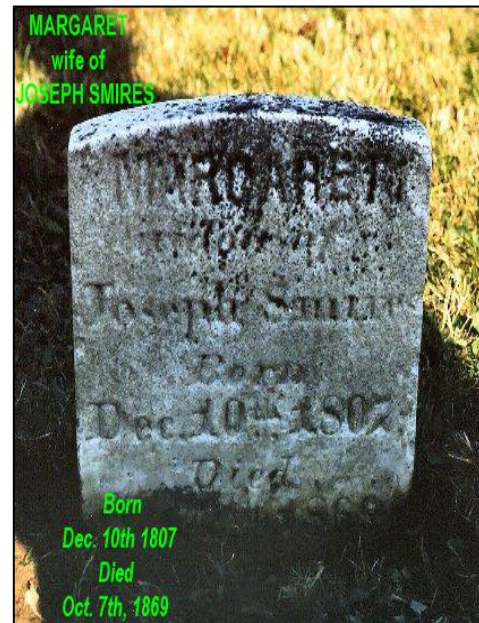
MARGARET received \$18.37 as settlement of account of personal inventory.¹¹

While the personal estate appears uncomplicated and easily settled, the same can not be said for the real estate. JOSEPH SMIRES, III filed a petition in the Ocean County Orphan's Court requesting the appointment of *commissioners* to divide the real estate. The reason to have court-appointed *commissioners* divide the property usually stems from an inability to reach an agreement amongst the heirs. ISRAEL J. WOODWARD, JOHN R. ROBBINS and JOSEPH R. DEBOW were appointed as *commissioners* on 12 October 1859 for MARYANN SOUTHARD, JOSEPH SMIRES, WILLIAM SMIRES, JANE ESTEL, CHARLES SMIRES, ROBERT SMIRES being entitled to an undivided tenth part and FRANCIS FERGUSON, ELIZABETH ESLICK, EZEKIAL SMIRES and DANIEL SMIRES who are minors being entitled to an undivided tenth part.¹²

The land mentioned above, plus the right of dower of MARGARET SMIRES, was sold at public auction to JOHN H. BURK for \$720.00. The report confirming this, dated 1 May 1860, specifies that the land contained about 80 acres (consisting of lots 2 and 3 mentioned earlier and the approximately 55 acre tract from his grandfather). The court ordered the *commissioners* to withhold \$241.66 from the \$720.00 received. Being clear of the dower they are to invest that sum in public stock with the interest being paid to JOSEPH'S widow.¹³ The transfer of the land took place on 2 June 1860.¹⁴ The Order to Pay Proceeds is dated 9 October 1860 and, in addition to the \$241.66 withheld and invested, orders that \$389.01 be divided in equal one-tenth parts (\$38.90) and distributed to the 10 heirs: MARY A. SOUTHARD, wife of JOSEPH SOUTHARD, ...JOSEPH SMIRES, ...WILLIAM SMIRES, ...JANE ESTEL, wife of MATTHIAS B. ESTEL, ...CHARLES SMIRES, ...ROBERT SMIRES, ...the guardian of FRANCES FERGUSON, wife of WILLIAM FERGUSON, ...ELIZABETH ESLICK, wife of ALEXANDER ESLICK, ...EZEKIAL SMIRES, ...DANIEL SMIRES. It was further ordered that, as the last four were minors; their shares would be invested for them. The remainder of the money, \$89.33, went to the *commissioners*.¹⁵

In 1860, MARGARET is found as head of household in New Hanover Township, Burlington County.¹⁶ She has \$100.00 in personal property. Her sons ROBERT and DANIEL are with her and listed as farm laborers.

MARGARET died in 1869 and was interred by her husband at Emley's Hill Methodist Episcopal Cemetery. Their separate grave markers are placed head-to-toe, not side-by-side.



¹¹ Joseph Smires, Estate of, Final Account, Ocean County Orphan's Court Minutes, Book 1, p.212.

¹² Joseph Smires, Estate of, Appointment of Commissioners, Ocean County Orphan's Court Minutes, Book 1, p.295.

¹³ Joseph Smires, Estate of, Decrees Confirming, Ocean County Orphan's Court Minutes, Book 1, p.305.

¹⁴ Ocean County Deeds, Book 33, p.462.

¹⁵ Joseph Smires, Estate of, Order To Pay Proceeds, Ocean County Orphan's Court Minutes, Book 1, p.313.

¹⁶ 1860 US Census: Burlington Co., NJ; New Hanover Township, PO at Shelltown, 10 July 1860, p.294, fa 193, dw 188, Ins 1-3.

While not proven, there is some slight evidence the surname SMIRES is a corruption of or change from the Germanic SCHMEYERS.

Issue:¹⁷

- 1) **MARYANN SMIRES**: married **JOSEPH S. SOUTHARD** on the 18th of January, 1845. One wedding announcement mentions that MARYANN was living in Burlington County at the time of her wedding. Their story continues on page 38 in Volume 1 of *Our English and Irish Ancestors* (BRIAN A. SMITH, D.C., ©2014); URL [accessed 15 July 2020]: <https://archive.org/details/2014UKVol1Public>
- 2) **JOSEPH SMIRES**: appears to have married ANN B. ____ (born 1834) and lived in Plumstead Township.¹⁸ The 1880 census find JOSEPH and ANN, 51 and 45 respectively, living in Hamilton Township, Mercer County.¹⁹ In the 1900 census, when they were living in Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County, JOSEPH's birth is given as February 1828 and ANN in March 1834.²⁰
- 3) **WILLIAM SMIRES**: was married on the 3rd of July, 1856 in New Egypt. His bride, JANE ESLICK, was born on the 27th of July, 1837 to ALEXANDER ESLICK and HANNAH COALMAN. WILLIAM died on 20 March 1880 and was interred at *Jacobstown Baptist Cemetery*. In the 1880 census for Ellisdale, New Hanover Township appears a 45 year-old, widowed JANE SMIRES, with her son JAMES, 10, and *MARY SMIRES*, 65, single, *insane*.²¹ JANE died 24 January 1910 and was interred at *Jacobstown Baptist Cemetery*.
 - a) **JOHN STOCKTON SMIRES**: born March 1857 or 1858, married TRENEY MESSLER on 23 July 1881. In 1900 they lived in Pemberton Township, Burlington County.²² TRENEY died in Pemberton at 77 years of age on 7 January 1937.²³ JOHN died 18 September 1945. Buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* now located within the confines of Fort Dix. Five known children:
 - i) **CLARENCE SMIRES**: born August 1883; married MARY and lived at 927 Quinton Avenue in the city of Trenton with their children in 1920:²⁴
 - (1) **CLIFFORD SMIRES**: born 1915

¹⁷ Much information obtained from personal communication with Francis SMIRES of Maple Shade, NJ, dated 13 September 1990 and with Elma ECKERT of Mt. Holly, NJ, dated 29 October 1990.

¹⁸ 1860 US Census: Ocean County, NJ, Plumstead Township, Series M653, roll 705, page 45, lines 30-31.

¹⁹ 1880 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, Hamilton Township, Roll 0789, page 555A.

²⁰ 1900 US Census: Monmouth County, NJ; Upper Freehold Township. ED148, sheet 3, lines 6-7. Series T623, roll 987, p 251.

²¹ 1880 US Census: New Hanover Tp, Burlington Co; Ellisdale, family 409, dwelling 413, page 483, line 44-46B.

²² 1900 US Census: Burlington County, NJ; Pemberton Township. ED 31, sheet 4, lines 40-46. Series T623, roll 957, page 177.

²³ *Mount Holly Herald*, 8 January 1937, page 5, column 5.

²⁴ 1920 US Census: Mercer County, NJ; City of Trenton; ED 102, sheet 13A, page 290, lines 47-50.

- (2) RALPH SMIRES: born 1917
- ii) ANNA SMIRES: born September 1886
- iii) EMILY SMIRES: born February 1890
- iv) ELMER SMIRES: born October 1891; worked on farm of LEWIS and MARY NERKS (?) in New Hanover Township in 1910.²⁵ By 1920 he had married MARGARET and had three children. Living on Mary Street in Pemberton, he was an oil truck driver.²⁶ MARGARET died in 1986 and ELMER in 1989; both buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* in Fort Dix.
- v) ELMIRA SMIRES: born July 1897
- b) GEORGE SMIRES: born 28 December 1859 in New Hanover Township, married first MIRIAM L. DANLEY (born 15 May 1860). MIRIAM died *in her 50s* at Sykesville on 10 February 1913 and was buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* in Fort Dix.²⁷ GEORGE, then living in New Egypt, married again in 24 March 1918 in Jacobstown. The online newspaper extracts contain the following: GEORGE SMIRES married (2) RUTH EDITH LAND of New Egypt *and* GEORGE SMIRES married (2) RUTH WAGNER of Jersey City.²⁸ Given the rarity of the name, it is doubtful 2 weddings took place. GEORGE died in Camden at the age of 74, on 12 January 1934. He had been living in New Egypt. He was buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* in Fort Dix.²⁹ Children are from first marriage to MIRIAM L. DANLEY:
- i) WILLIAM SMIRES: born 1888. In 1910, a 23 year-old WILLIAM SMIRES is found living and working on the farm of HOWARD and KATIE LETTS *near Jobstown* in Springfield Township.³⁰ On 9 June 1911 WILLIAM SMIRES married REBECCA BOWKER in Mount Holly; both lived in *Pointville*.³¹ In 1920 they, with three children, were living on Browns Mills Road in New Hanover Township with WILLIAM being a laborer at nearby Camp Dix.³² WILLIAM died in 1956 and REBECCA on 27 June 1962 in Mount Holly; both buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* in Fort Dix.
- (1) ELLIE M. SMIRES: born July 1915
- (2) RYLAND E. SMIRES, born November 1917
- (3) THELMA D. SMIRES: born August 1919
- ii) ABEL SMIRES: married MAUDE PARENT; living in New Hanover Township in 1910.³³ In 1920 the family of four was living at 138 North 26th Street in Camden where ABEL was a carpenter.³⁴
- (1) GEORGE SMIRES: born 1913

²⁵ 1910 US Census: Burlington County, NJ, New Hanover Township. ED 64, sheet 6, lines 59-65, p 194.

²⁶ 1920 US Census: Burlington Co, NJ; Pemberton Tp. Pemberton, ED 101, sht 3A, p 111, ls 45-49.

²⁷ *Mount Holly Herald*, 22 February 1913, page 2, column 3.

²⁸ *Mount Holly Herald*, 6 April 1918, p.8, c.2. Burlington County Library's online newspaper extracts have two listings for the same date George of Ruth Edith Lamb of New Egypt and George and Ruth Wagner of Jersey City.

²⁹ *Mount Holly Herald*, 19 January 1934, page 6, column 5.

³⁰ 1910 US Census: Burlington County, NJ, Springfield Township. ED 80, sheet 10B, lines 62-67, p 129.

³¹ *Mount Holly Herald*, 17 June 1911, p.2, c.4.

³² 1920 US Census: Burlington County, NJ; New Hanover Township. ED 91, sheet 1A, p 230, lines 13-17.

³³ 1910 US Census: Burlington County, NJ, New Hanover Township. ED 64, sheet 13, lines 10-11, p 194.

³⁴ 1920 US Census: Camden Co, NJ; Camden. ED 83, sht 10A, dwelling and family 201, lines 25-28. p 77.

- (2) FRANCIS SMIRES: born 1919, married HELEN REUSTLE (born 1919); lived in Maple Shade, NJ until his death on the 26th of December 1996.
- (a) LYNNE SMIRES: married ? BASNAR. LYNNE is vice-principal at Absegami High School in Absecon, NJ.
- (b) LOIS SMIRES: married ? ARGENBRIGHT.
- iii) BEULAH SMIRES: born 1884; married ? Marles. BEULAH died in 1917 and was buried in *Pointville Methodist Episcopal Cemetery* in Fort Dix.
- c) JOSEPH SMIRES: born 26 May 1861 in Plumstead Township, Ocean County. He may have been married before marrying MARY LEWIS (born circa 1871) in 1900. The census records of 1920, but not 1910, indicate a son born in 1893. In 1910 the family was living on the *road from Jobstown to Sailor Pond* in Juliustown, Springfield Township.³⁵ By 1920 they had moved to Arneys Mount Road in the same township.³⁶ He died 3 August 1926.
- i) BENJAMIN SMIRES: born 1893.
- ii) GRANVILLE SMIRES: born 1901, married ELMIRA ROFF
- iii) DANIEL SMIRES: born 1906(?)
- iv) ROBERT SMIRES: born 27 September 1906, died 31 October 1964, buried *Mt. Holly Cemetery*.
- d) CHARLES SMIRES: born 10 June 1865, died 15 February 1866(?), Plumstead Township, Ocean County.
- e) JAMES B. SMIRES: born May 1872; married NORA N. (Born March 1869) in 1895; were LIVING on Willow Street in Bordentown in 1900 where JAMES was a brakeman.³⁷ In 1910 they were at 249 Prince Street in that city and JAMES was still working for the railroad. 1920 saw little change except a short move down the street to 525 Prince Street. One known child:
- i) JOSEPH SMIRES: born November 1896.
- f) HOWARD SMIRES: possible sixth child, not definite.
- 4) CHARLES SMIRES: married MARY A. DENNIS (born 1836, died 1919); they were living in Plumstead Township in 1860.³⁸ The Consolidate Enrollment Lists for the Civil War of 1863-4 has CHARLES as a 28 year old farmer, born in Ocean County and living in New Egypt. It appears he may have also used the name JOHN: JOHN SMIRES, 35 years old, appears with his wife MARY, 33 years old, and son HARRISON, 13 years old, owning a farm valued at \$3000.00 in 1870 in New Hanover Township. Their personal property is valued at \$500.00. Living with them are SAMUEL DENNIS, 81 years old and his wife MARTHA DENNIS, 53 years old, believed to be MARY'S parents, and EMMA DENNIS, 11 years old. In 1880, CHARLES, MARY A. and son CHARLES, then 5 years old are in *Pointville* New Hanover Township and SAMUEL and EMMA DENNIS are enumerated with them again. MARTHA DENNIS had died 25 April 1877, being buried in *Jacobstown Methodist Cemetery*. The 1880 enumeration was completed early in the year as SAMUEL DENNIS died 22 April 1880 and was buried next to his

³⁵ 1910 US Census: Burlington County, NJ; Juliustown, Springfield Township. ED 80, sheet 7A, page 127, lines 1-5.

³⁶ 1920 US Census, Burlington County, NJ; Springfield Township. ED 111, sheet 5B, dwelling 113, family 117, lines 76-81.

³⁷ 1900 US Census, Burlington Co, NJ; Bordentown Tp, Bordentown. ED 4, sht 6, p 53, lines 15-17; and 1910 US Census, Burlington Co, NJ; Bordentown Tp, Bordentown. ED 43, sht 17B, p 72, lines 24-27.

³⁸ 1860 US Census: Ocean Co, NJ; Plumstead Township, page 41, lines 18-20.

wife. In 1885 CHARLES, MARY A. and CHARLES V. SMIRES are still in New Hanover Township. 1900 finds them in Woodland Township, Burlington County with their daughter-in-law NELLIE SMIRES (wife of HARRISON?).³⁹ He died 26 March 1901. A 72 year old widowed MARY SMIRES is found in 1910 as a servant, living with HANNAH PLATT in New Hanover Township. Both of MARY's children were dead by this point.⁴⁰ MARY died in Palmyra on 22 February 1919 at 79 years of age.⁴¹ They are buried at *Jacobstown Methodist Cemetery*.⁴²

- a) ROSS H.C. *HARRISON* SMIRES: born 14 November 1857, New Hanover Township
 - b) CHARLES V. SMIRES: born 13 January 1872. There exists a second CHARLES SMIRES who was ten years older and should not be confused with this one. CHARLES died 4 December 1899 and was buried with his parents.
- 5) ROBERT SMIRES: married MARYANN MELK (born 1828, NJ) 24 August 1861 in Plumstead Township, Ocean County. They were living in New Hanover Township in 1870.⁴³ By 1880 they had moved to Berkley Township in Ocean County.⁴⁴ MARYANN died in the following decade and ROBERT married REBECCA (born February 1854) in 1890 and they were living Lacey Township in the same county by 1900.⁴⁵
- a) ABBY SMIRES: born 1862.
 - b) AMELIA SMIRES: born 4 May 1867, Stafford Township, Ocean County.
 - c) JOSEPH SMIRES: born 1869. In 1920, a 51 year-old JOSEPH with 48 year-old wife ELLA are living in Forked River, Ocean County with their son FLOYD SMIRES, 23 and his wife ELMA and a second son JOSEPH SMIRES, 18. JOSEPH was a boat builder.⁴⁶
- 6) JANE SMIRES:
- 7) FRANCES SMIRES: known as *FANNY*; married WILLIAM FERGUSON on 31 December 1857 in Upper Freehold Township in Monmouth County. They were living in New Hanover Township in Burlington County by 1880, but had moved on by 1885.⁴⁷ WILLIAM worked as a farm laborer. His 70-year-old mother, ELIZABETH FERGUSON is found living with them in 1880.
- a) MARGARET FERGUSON: born 1870.
 - b) CAROLINE FERGUSON: born 1875.
 - c) ELIZA FERGUSON: born 1877.
 - d) DANIEL FERGUSON: born 1879.

³⁹ 1900 US Census: Burlington County, NJ; Woodland Township. ED 40, sheet 2B, lines 1-5. page 256, lines 63-66.

⁴⁰ 1910 US Census, Burlington County, NJ, New Hanover Township. ED 64, sheet 13, line 24, page 194.

⁴¹ *Mount Holly Herald*, 8 March 1919, page 5, column 3.

⁴² 1870 US Census: Burlington Co, NJ; New Hanover Tp, page 753, line 20. 1880 US Census: Burlington Co, NJ; New Hanover Tp page 468, line 21; 1885 NJ State Census: New Hanover Tp, Burlington Co, ho 142, fa 155, p. 20, persons 571-573.

⁴³ 1870 US Census: Burlington Co., NJ; New Hanover Township, PO Bordentown, pp. 747-8, fa 65, dw 61, lines 38-40, 1-2.

⁴⁴ 1880 US Census: Ocean County, NJ, Berkley Township; roll 0794, page 41B.

⁴⁵ 1900 US Census: Ocean County, NJ; Lacey Township. ED 158, sheet 3, page 106, lines 34-35

⁴⁶ 1920 US Census: Ocean County, NJ; Forked River. ED 161, sheet 2, page 88, lines 52-56.

⁴⁷ 1880 US census: Burlington County, NJ, New Hanover Township; roll 0773, page 483A.

- 7) EZEKIAL SMIRES: fought in the Civil War. He appears in the 1870 census of New Hanover Township, with wife SARAH (born 1846, NJ).⁴⁸ They have not been located in the 1880 census. His claim for a Civil War pension involving a wound to one side of the face was approved in August 1881; in 1883 he was receiving \$2.00 a month and living in Georgetown.⁴⁹ They were living on Oliver Street in Bordentown in 1900 and 1910.⁵⁰ EZEKIAL died in Bordentown at 72 years of age on 31 October 1910.⁵¹ SARAH died 1 February 1918 in Bordentown.⁵² Three children, 2 named:
- JAMES B. SMIRES: born 16 May 1873, died 29 November 1952.
 - ALBERT SMIRES: born August 1881
- 8) JANE SMIRES: married MATTHIAS B. ESTEL on 27 January 1865.⁵³ *BARCOLOW ESTEL* appears in the 1895 NJ census in Upper Freehold Township.⁵⁴ In the *Robbins Burial Ground* near Clarksburg are their grave markers; JANE's age is off a bit:

JANE SMIRES
Wife of BURKALOW ESTEL
Died February 22, 1895
Aged 51.10.25

MATHIAS BURKALOW ESTEL
Private Co. G, 10th Regiment, NJ Volunteers
Died Jan. 19, 1913

- EMMA ESTEL: was married to ARMISTED H. JOHNSON on 13 June 1874 by was REVEREND VINCENT MESSLER.
- 9) DANIEL C. SMIRES: born 1844. DANIEL was in Company C, 11th Regiment of the NJ Volunteers in the Civil War; he received an abdominal injury during the conflict. Was living in Plumsted Township in 1860 as a farm laborer for CHARLES and SARAH WARNER⁵⁵ appears with wife SARAH H. WRIGHT (born 1847, NJ) and with son THOMAS (born 1866) in New Hanover Township in 1870. They are living in the same house as THOMAS MYERS and his family.⁵⁶ The house was next to DANIEL's sister MARYANN (SOUTHARD). By 1875 they were living in Upper Freehold Township and in 1880 they are living in Allentown.⁵⁷ He was living in Ellisdale when he filed a claim for a Civil War injury pension; it was approved in March 1880 for a monthly payment of \$4.00.⁵⁸ DANIEL died in 1903 and SARAH in 1913,

⁴⁸ 1870 US Census: Burlington Co., NJ; New Hanover Township, Post Office Bordentown, p 749, fa 98, dw 88, lines 26-27.

⁴⁹ 1883 List of Pensioners on the Roll, Burlington County, New Jersey; available online at: <http://www.newhorizonsgenealogicalservices.com/1883-pensioners-on-the-roll/1883-pensioners-on-the-roll-nj-burlington.htm>

⁵⁰ 1900 US Census: Burlington Co, NJ; Bordentown Tp, Bordentown. ED 4, sht 10, , p 57, lines 26-28; and 1910 US Census: Burlington Co, NJ; Bordentown Tp, Bordentown. ED 43, sht 16B, p 71, lines 74-75.

⁵¹ *Mount Holly Herald*, 5 November 1910, page 2, column 5. (and) *(Trenton) Sunday Times-Advertiser*, 6 November 1910, p. 5

⁵² *Mount Holly Herald*, 9 February 1918, page 8, column 2.

⁵³ Ocean County Historical Society Records, Toms River, NJ.

⁵⁴ 1895 NJ State Census, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County, page 47, number 1408.

⁵⁵ 1860 US Census: Ocean County, NJ; Plumsted Township, page 44, lines 31-39

⁵⁶ 1870 US Census: Burlington Co., NJ; New Hanover Township, PO Bordentown, p.743b, fa 13 & 14, dw 12, lines 18-23 and fa 15, dw 13, lines 24-30.

⁵⁷ 1880 US Census: Monmouth Co., NJ; Upper Freehold Township, page 509B, line 21.

⁵⁸ 1883 List of Pensioners on the Roll, Monmouth County, NJ; available online at: <http://www.newhorizonsgenealogicalservices.com/1883-pensioners-on-the-roll/1883-pensioners-on-the-roll-nj-monmouth.htm>

both interred at *Ellisdale United Methodist Cemetery*. Also in the plot is a marker for *Our Baby* with no name or date. Descendents still live in the area.⁵⁹

- a) THOMAS C. SMIRES: born August 1866; married ESTELLA SOUTHARD (born 8 July 1870), daughter of SAMUEL C. SOUTHARD and FRANCIS HOPKINS, his wife. Living at 280 Walnut Avenue in Trenton, NJ in 1900 where THOMAS worked as a retail grocer.⁶⁰ With them at this time was a widowed sister-in-law HANNAH BROWN. ESTELLA died 1935 and THOMAS in 1939, interred at *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*. Three known children:
 - i) THOMAS CLARENCE SMIRES: born January 1900
 - ii) SAMUEL CHARLES SMIRES
 - iii) DANIEL CARLTON SMIRES: A *CARLTON SMIRES* of Pointville married MARIE DUNFEE from New Egypt on 16 October 1932 in Bordentown.⁶¹
- b) ALBERT SMIRES: does not appear in 1870 or later census so it is thought he was born and died between 1867 and early 1870.
- c) FRANK/FRANKLIN SMIRES: born October 1871; married CLARA F. SOUTHARD (born 23 March 1874), younger sister of ESTELLA on 1 January 1896 in Ellisdale. New Hanover Township for the 1900 census where he was a blacksmith.⁶² In 1920, CLARA'S 79 year-old widowed mother, FRANCIS SOUTHARD, is living with them in Ellisdale.⁶³ FRANK died 17 November 1928 and CLARA on 28 March 1941. They are interred at *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*. Two known children:
 - i) DANIEL LESLIE SMIRES: born November 1896, married MARGARET (born 1902, died 1985). DANIEL died 1960; *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*. One known son:
 - (a) DANIEL LESLIE SMIRES, JUNIOR: born 1922; married RUTH ELY (born 1926, died 2001, *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*). Died 6 December 2012; buried with wife. 4 known children:
 - 1. GLENN DAN SMIRES: married JUDY. Ellisdale, NJ.
 - a. DEAN SMIRES
 - i. DANIEL SMIRES
 - b. PEGGY SMIRES
 - 2. DEAN LESLIE SMIRES: born 1958, married BARBARA (WELLS; born 1960). DEAN died 14 September 1980, *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*.⁶⁴
 - a. RENEE WELLS
 - b. IAN WELLS
 - 3. CHRISTINE DEE SMIRES: married PAUL HAYES. Clarksburg, NJ.
 - a. AMANDA HAYES
 - 4. SUSAN BETH SMIRES: married name is LEGGATT. Whiting, NJ.
 - (b) DELORES SMIRES: married name KERNS.
 - ii) ELSIE GERTRUDE SMIRES: born August 1898; died 1974; *Ellisdale Methodist Cemetery*.
- d) CARRIE SMIRES: born 8 April 1874, Ellisdale;⁶⁵ married ____ LAMB. She died 1920, interred with parents.

⁵⁹ Daniel C. Spires, Jr., Allentown, NJ, letter to author dated 12 May 1989.

⁶⁰ 1900 US Census: Mercer Co, NJ; 1st Precinct, City of Trenton. ED 94, sheet 6, page 225, lines 54-57.

⁶¹ *Morrestown News*, 21 October 1932, p.4, c.1.

⁶² 1900 US Census, Burlington County, NJ; New Hanover Township. ED 25, sheet 7, page 77, lines 1-4

⁶³ 1920 US Census, Burlington County, NJ; North Hanover Township. ED 93, sheet 2A, dw 31, fa 33, lines 17-21, p 2.

⁶⁴ *Burlington County Herald*, 18 September 1980. Obituary gives age as 22, thus 1958 year of birth; 1956 is on headstone.

⁶⁵ NJ Vital Records, volume CG, page 111, line 9.

- i) LESTER LAMB: born 1901, died 1936, interred with mother.
- e) Anson Smires

10) ELIZABETH SMIRES: married first ALEXANDER ESLICK on 15 April 1857 in Plumstead Township, Ocean County, NJ. ALEXANDER was born 5 February 1835, son of ALEXANDER and HANNAH (COALMAN) ESLICK. ALEXANDER was the brother of JANE who married WILLIAM SMIRES (see above). ALEXANDER died on 2 June 1864 in the Civil War. He is buried at the *National Cemetery* in Cold Harbor, VA. They had one daughter:

- a) HANNAH ESLICK: married BRITTON PULLEN around 1875. They were living with HANNAH'S mother and her second husband JOHN, who was HANNAH'S uncle as well.
 - i) SAMUEL PULLEN: born 1875.
 - ii) ELIZABETH PULLEN: born 1878.

After ALEXANDER'S death, ELIZABETH married (2) her brother-in-law JOHN C. ESLICK (born 5 February 1832) on 26 July 1865 in New Egypt. JOHN was ALEXANDER'S brother. In 1880 ELIZABETH and JOHN are living in Ewing Township with HANNAH PULLEN.⁶⁶ JOHN died 28 March 1917 and was buried the *Baptist Cemetery in North Hanover* Township, probably *Jacobstown Baptist*.⁶⁷ Death records for Plumstead Township note that ELIZABETH ESLICK, widowed, age 79, daughter of JOSEPH SMIRES and MARGARET THOMAS, died at New Egypt on 24 November 1919.

⁶⁶ 1880 US Census: Mercer County, NJ, Ewing Township, roll 0788, page 19B.

⁶⁷ Burlington Co. WPA Veterans Grave Registration Cards, Baptist Cemetery, North Hanover, Sect. C, Lot 267, Blk 26, grave 1.

Husband: **JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR**
 Born: c1773
 Married: 20 March 1796 Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County, NJ¹
 Died: 27 December 1818 Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County, NJ
 Buried:
 Father: JOSEPH SMYARS (died 1819)
 Mother:

Wife: **NANCY THOMAS**
 Born:
 Died: Before 1825
 Buried:

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR	1789/99	
2) ROBERT SMIRES		
3) CHARLOTTE SMIRES	c1792	Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth Co.
4) ELIZABETH SMIRES	3 August 1809	Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth Co.

Documents for this time period are scarce and those that have been found have limited information to offer. JOSEPH SMIRES appears twice in the records of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in Monmouth County. The first time is in 1792 and the person is named as JOSEPH SMIRES, *JUNIOR* therefore the assumption is this is our subject. The second entry in 1807 concerns the father of our subject. In this action, JAMES HANKINSON acting for himself and *BURNETTS or RESINETTS* HANKINSON filed suit for collection of an unpaid debt of £120 against JOSEPH SMIRES JUNIOR *which to him owes and from him unjustly detained*. A Writ was issued to the Monmouth County Sheriff to take JOSEPH SMIRES *into your safety* and present him to the Court at Freehold to answer the complaint *on the Fourth Tuesday in January April next term*. It was signed by ELISHA LAWRENCE, Judge on the *Twentieth Twenty-Eighth day of October January in 1791* 1792.² The line-outs indicate the Writ had been prepared originally for the Court to sign on 20 April 1791 and the case to be heard in January 1792 but there was a delay and the Writ was signed on 28 January 1792 and the case was to be heard in April 1792. Nothing else appears in the Court record; perhaps the issue was resolved before the next Court session. Property records were consulted because of the large sum of the debt but the research was inconclusive; a JAMES HANKINSON had property in Colts Neck seized and sold by the Sheriff in 1789 but there's no link to JOSEPH.

JOSEPH SMIRES appears on the June 1793 Tax Ratable list for Upper Freehold Township. This could be the subject or his father. JUSTICE JAMES TAPSCOTT then *Married JOSEPH SMIRES and NANCY THOMAS and Pronounced them Man and wife* on March 20th 1796.³

¹ Betty Young, "Smires Family Tree" on Ancestry: <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/13358440/person/-82437678>. The index of Monmouth County Marriages, Book A states the marriage record is on p. 11, however a thorough review of the digital version available on FamilySearch.org of the first 40 pages do not contain the entry. The cause of this absence is not known.

² Monmouth County Clerk, Archives, Court of Common Pleas (1723-1850) 1818; *James Hankinson v Joseph Smires Junior*, Freehold. Copies of original obtained online through their Open Public Records System at oprs.co.monmouth.nj.us

JOSEPH died before his father so his bequest of an equal share, i.e. one-third, of the one 59.45 acre property was divided equally between his two children, with each receiving a one-sixth share (one-third divided by 2).

On the 7th of January, 1819 THOMAS DEBOW was granted *Letters of Administration* for the *Estate of JOSEPH SMIRES Late of the County of Monmouth* by the Surrogate and had to post a bond of \$400.00 to his *Excellency ISAAC WILLIAMSON, ESQUIRE, ordinary or Surrogate General* of New Jersey.⁴ Two others were also appointed to administer the estate at this time: WILLIAM THOMAS and RICHARD DEBOW but they seem to have had little involvement. An inventory dated 11 January 1819 for *JOSEPH SMIRES late of the township of Upper Freehold* totals \$460.11. It includes *horses, horned cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, hay, corn, rye, implements of husbandry* and other belongings amounting to \$442.61 plus an unpaid debt owed to the estate for \$17.50; it does not mention who owed the debt.⁵ LEWIS DAY was one of two appraisers; the other was named RICHARD, but the surname is almost illegible, but it might be *D. BOW*. LEWIS DAY was also an appraiser of the estate JOSEPH's father's estate in the following year. THOMAS DEBOW submitted the inventory and a statement certifying its accuracy, signed by the same RICHARD, to CALEB LLOYD, Monmouth Surrogate on 27 January 1819.⁶ The Monmouth County Orphan's Court Minutes for the January 1823 term reflects THOMAS DEBOW making a claim for \$93.84½ cents; this was allowed and the estate was settled in the April term of that year.⁷

Issue:

- 1) **JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR:** sold his 1/6 share in a tract of land inherited from his grandfather JOSEPH SMYARS in 1819 to his brother ROBERT on 22 August 1825. JOSEPH married **MARGARET THOMAS** January/February 1826. Their story is continued in a separate section.
- 2) **ROBERT SMIRES:** inherited a 1/6 share in a tract of land owned by his grandfather JOSEPH SMYARS in 1819; he purchased the 1/6 right of the 59 45/100 acre tract left to his brother JOSEPH by their grandfather. The deed, dated and recorded 22 August 1825, states he paid \$30.00 for the tract.⁸ He sold the 1/3 share he held in this tract of land to ABRAHAM GEMSON for the same amount of money on 12 May 1839. It is in this deed we find the phrase *...all that he is entitled to as one of the heirs-at-law of JOSEPH SMIRES, deceased and also all the share of his brother JOSEPH SMIRES...*⁹ The other 4 share holders are not named in the deed and there are no deeds showing a sale by his sisters CHARLOTTE and ELIZABETH or their respective husbands. That he may have had a wife MARY is only barely hinted at by the fact that a MARY SMIRES, *insane*, who was born around 1815 is found living with JANES SMIRES, the widow of ROBERT's nephew WILLIAM SMIRES in 1870. While this hardly qualifies as proof,

³ Monmouth County Marriages, Book A, p.111; See also GMNJ, 56:2:54.

⁴ Monmouth County (NJ) Surrogate Court, Letters of Administration, volume A, page 403.

⁵ Monmouth County Inventories, Volume E, page 230.

⁶ Monmouth County Wills, Testaments and Inventories, No. 9322M, Inventory for Joseph Smires, 1819.

⁷ Monmouth County Orphan's Court Minutes, volume F, pages 334 and 349, January session 1823; and volume F, page 366, April session 1823.

⁸ Monmouth County Deeds, Book K2, page 226, recorded 22 August 1825

⁹ Monmouth County Deeds, Book X3, page 490, recorded 24 July 1839

it could explain why a 45 year old widow would bring a 65 year old widow that was insane into her house.

- 3) CHARLOTTE SMIRES: married (1) FRANCIS JOHNSON on 14 March 1821 in Upper Freehold Township. FRANCIS and CHARLOTTE are no longer married by 1838 as CHARLOTTE married (2) JOHN LEMMON on 30 August 1837 in Upper Freehold Township. Possible son:
 - a) FRANCIS JOHNSON: born 1826; died 13 March 1892, buried at 1st Presbyterian Churchyard, Shrewsbury, NJ.
- 4) ELIZABETH SMIRES: married JOHN NUGENT VANARSDALE (born 1806) 22 November 1828 in Upper Freehold Township.¹⁰ They lived in Hamilton Township, NJ where ELIZABETH died 20 July 1889; buried at *Groveville United Methodist Cemetery*. JOHN died in Yardville in Hamilton Township two years earlier on 25 May 1887 (1886?). Buried at *Groveville United Methodist Cemetery*.¹¹ 3 known children:
 - a) JOHN VANARSDALE: born 1833; married JEANETTE WILSON (born 1834; died 14 December 1894). JOHN was a train conductor and was the engineer on the New York and Philadelphia Express Train when it rolled into the Clinton Avenue Depot in Trenton, slamming into the parlor car on the Southern Express which hadn't yet left the depot. JOHN died 2 August 1920, Yardville and was buried *Groveville United Methodist Cemetery*. 4 children.
 - b) ELIZABETH VANARSDALE: born 1841
 - c) DANIEL C. VANARSDALE: born 1844; wife's name MARTHA; died 28 November 1896, Neptune, Monmouth County. 1 child.

¹⁰ Monmouth County Marriages, Book B, p.236; and *Trenton Federalist*, 15 December 1828, p. 3.

¹¹ Devlin-Yard Family Tree, Ancestry at: <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/14866131/person/906282736>

Husband: **JOSEPH SMYARS**
 Born:
 Married:
 Died: 1819 Monmouth County, NJ
 Buried:
 Father:
 Mother:

Wife:

Born:
 Died:
 Buried:
 Father:
 Mother:

Issue:	Born:	Where:
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- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| 1) JOSEPH SMYARS | c1773 | |
| 2) MARGARET SMYARS | | |
| 3) REBECCA SMYARS | | |

Three spellings of the surname have been found in records: *SMIRES*, *SMIERS*, and *SMYARS* which the subject used in his will. Appending *Senior* and *Junior* is more problematic. In his last Will and Testament, our subject identified himself as JOSEPH SMYARS SENIOR, his son as JOSEPH *SMIRES* SENIOR, and his grandson as JOSEPH *SMIRES* JUNIOR. His son JOSEPH used *SMIRES* for most of his life. JOSEPH *SMIRES* appears on the June 1793 Tax Ratable list for Upper Freehold Township. This could be the subject or his son.

A JOSEPH *SMIRES* appears in the Upper Freehold Militia, 7th unit, in 1793 and this could be father or son.¹ A *family story* of uncertain origin, relates that the powder horn used to load the rifle of JOSEPH is extant and in possession of a descendant. If it does indeed exist, this author has no clues as to its current whereabouts. The surname *SMIRES*/*SMYARS* does not appear in the Revolutionary War card file in the NJ State Archives. However there were others with this surname that did serve during the Revolutionary War: ROBERT *SMIRES* was in Company I of the 11th NJ Infantry and DANIEL and EZEKIAL *SMIRES* were in Company G of the 11th NJ Infantry.

JOSEPH owned two or three tracts of land over the course of his life; the phrase *more or less* is problematic – how *much* more or less – one acre or five acres? One of the three properties detailed next goes *missing* after a certain date which could be due to two descriptions of the same tract being different, *e.g.* 50 acres *more or less* and 55.08 acres, or there were three separate tracts. It is thought the first one he owned contained 55.08 and was in his possession prior to 1793 when he had to pay property tax in Upper Freehold Township; of course the tax could have been for a different property all together. He was definitely in possession of this size tract by 1802 and it could refer to the next deed. He bought 50 acres *more or less* in Upper Freehold Township from AARON LONGSTREET of Middletown on 1 May 1797. The beginning point of the lot description is a *stake standing on a course thirteen chains* (8,580 feet or 1.5 miles) northwest

¹New Jersey in 1793; Norton, J.S.; 1973; (Salt Lake City, Utah); p.431

of a Bridge over the South Meadow Run where the road crosses said Run that leads from Emley's Mill and parts adjacent to Coward's upper saw mill on the South Branch of the Meteteconck and about a Mile and a half distant from the Bridge over Lahaway Brook called Elisha Lawrence's Bridge. The deed is not indexed in the Monmouth County Deed books. He took out a mortgage from AARON LONGSTREET on the same date with *the Principal sum of twenty nine Pounds proclamation Money silver dollars at seven shillings & six pence each, payable on a certain Bond or Obligation bearing even date herewith*. The tract actually contained 54.9 acres; see property maps at end of file. The mortgage was cancelled on 10 November 1802.² On 10 December 1802, JOSEPH SMIER, of Upper Freehold Township, bought a tract of land containing 59.45 acres from ROBERT MONTGOMERY for £37 10s. This tract actually contained 55.6 acres. For this he gave the seller his bond in the amount of £30 12s 2p and mortgaged the property back to him on 14 December 1802.³ The first corner of the tract in the deed is about 200' northeast *from the northeast corner of JOSEPH SMIER dwelling house*; this reveals that JOSEPH owned property prior to this purchase. Later records indicate that the property was in present-day Jackson Township, Ocean County and a mortgage places it on or near Mount Holly Road. An identifying reference for measurement purposes in a later deed is *a bridge in the south meadow*.⁴

ROBERT MONTGOMERY filed a complaint in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for Monmouth County on 4 January 1807 against JOSEPH SMIER for the unpaid balance on the 1802 bond (£30 12s 2p) plus interest through 20 April 1807 (£9 6s 3p) totaling £39 18s 5p or \$106.46. At the April term of the Court the complainant requested a judgment in the amount of \$222.29 for the bond (\$106.46), costs (\$15.83), and damages (\$100.00). The Court found for the plaintiff in the amount of \$212.92. JOSEPH appeared in Court in July to acknowledge the debt and present JOHN DEBOW as his guarantor of payment. The Court issued a Writ in October 1808 ordering the sale of any property he had. JAMES LLOYD, Sheriff offered the property for sale but there were no buyers and, as of 11 January 1808, the property remained in the Sheriff's possession.⁵ It is not certain what became of this debt and there is no cancellation notice appended to the mortgage. The fact that the tract does not appear as part of his Estate means either the supposition that the same tract was described in two different ways is valid or, as the Court ordered, it eventually was sold by the Sheriff.

From the information obtained thus far, it appears JOSEPH's wife died before he did. JOSEPH SMYARS, *SEIGNIOR of the township of Upper Freehold* wrote his will on the 1st of October in 1819. He left his bed and bedding to his *dear grand-daughter* HENNENET, all his property to his *well beloved daughter* MARGARET during her lifetime and then to his *dear grandson* JOSEPH. The surname is spelled SMYARS and SMIAERS in this record.⁶ He named his daughter MARGARET

² Monmouth County Mortgages, Book C, p. 205, recorded 10 May 1797.

³ Monmouth County Deeds, Book N, page 552, recorded 25 January 1803; Monmouth County Mortgages, Book D, p. 272, recorded 10 January 1803.

⁴ Ocean County Deeds, Book 33, page 462; Estate of Joseph Smiers (grandson) to Joseph H. Burk; Monmouth County Mortgages, Book N, p. 331, recorded 10 September 1845.

⁵ Monmouth County Clerk, Archives, Court of Common Pleas (1723-1850) 1808; *Robert Montgomery v Joseph Smiers*, Freehold. Copies of original obtained online through their Open Public Records System at oprs.co.monmouth.nj.us; note in file states the proceeding was also recorded in *Liber E of Executions, folios 165 & 6*.

⁶ Monmouth County Wills, 1819, Joseph Smyars, Sr.; Monmouth County Inventories, 9335M, Joseph Smiers, 1819; and Monmouth County Inventories, 9322M, Joseph Smyars, 1820.

as sole executrix. His signature was witnessed by JOHN FRANCIS, LEWIS DAY and ELIZABETH CLUTCH. An inventory done by LEWIS DAY and FENWICK SHAW on 10 January 1820 lists furniture, bedding, implements of husbandry and a debt of \$1.00. As this debt is a credit to the estate, it was a debt owed by someone to JOSEPH. LEWIS DAY had done the appraisal on the estate of JOSEPH'S son the previous year. The property bought before 1802 was adjacent to the 1802 purchase; it contained 55.08 acres and was passed to the grandson JOSEPH as specified in the Will. The disposition of the 59.45 acre property did not follow JOSEPH'S written wishes. As with the other tract, this one was left to his daughter MARGARET and then his grandson JOSEPH. Instead, this tract, bought in 1802, was divided into six equal shares. His grandsons, JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR and ROBERT SMIRES, sons of JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR, each received an undivided one-sixth share. The disposition of the four remaining shares is unknown as no reference to them has been found in any records reviewed. One possibility is that a certain value in shares was turned over to ROBERT MONTGOMERY in payment of the 1808 Court judgment, assuming that it had yet to be paid. JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR sold his share to his brother ROBERT in 1825.⁷ ROBERT, in turn, sold his $\frac{1}{3}$ share in the property on 12 May 1839.⁸ It can be assumed that a one-third share was inherited by each child since that would have been JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR'S share had he been alive. This correlates with his 3 known children. His son JOSEPH SMIRES, SENIOR dies before the property is divided so an undivided $\frac{1}{6}$ share was inherited by each of his children: JOSEPH, ROBERT, CHARLOTTE and ELIZABETH. There is a granddaughter HENNENET who would receive a $\frac{1}{6}$ share which leaves a single $\frac{1}{6}$ share unspoken for which means there is one unidentified grandchild (the division of shares being equal). No deeds have been found in Monmouth County through 1855 that reflect a sale by his estate or by his granddaughters CHARLOTTE and ELIZABETH or their husbands and HENNENET has never been identified.

- 1) **JOSEPH SMYARS:** adopted **SMIRES** at a young age. He married **NANCY THOMAS** on 20 March 1796. Their story is continued in a separate section.
- 2) **MARGARET SMYARS:** no information known except that she apparently died between 1819, when she is found as an heir in her father's will, and 1825. The 55.08 acre property left to her by her father had a stipulation that, after her death, the land would be given to his grandson JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR. Since JOSEPH SMIRES, JUNIOR was in possession of this tract in 1825, it is logical to assume MARGARET had died. What became of her one-third share in the 59.45 acre farm is unknown.
- 3) **REBECCA SMYARS:** married **DAVID ELLISON**, 25 October 1804, Monmouth County.⁹ The 1830 census of Upper Freehold Township has an entry for a **DAVID ELLISON JUNIOR**, 20 – 30 years old, with a 60 to 70 year old female.¹⁰ The entry for 1840 has the same two in the next higher age group plus a male 10 – 15 years old.¹¹ A review of deeds reveals no recorded sale of property in Jackson Township for either **DAVID** or **REBECCA**. A **DAVID ELLISON** does buy

⁷ Monmouth Co. Deeds, Book K2, p.226; recorded Aug.1825

⁸ Monmouth County Deeds, Book X3, page 490, 24 July 1839.

⁹ Monmouth County Marriages, Book A, p.80

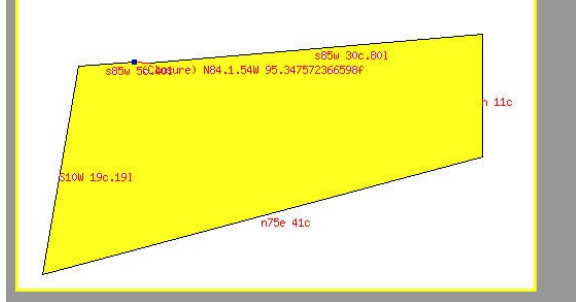
¹⁰ 1830 US Census: New Jersey, Monmouth County, Upper Freehold Township, page 345. NARA microfilm M19.

¹¹ 1840 US Census: New Jersey, Monmouth County, Upper Freehold Township, page 205. NARA microfilm M704.

property in Plumsted Township on 16 September 1854 from the estate of WILLIAM G. MALSBUY, son of GILBERT MALSBUY and SARAH BURGESS. Details are in their file.

- a) ELIZABETH ELLISON: born c1809. Married ____ HALEY. Died 10 June 1870 in Polhemustown, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County.¹²

¹² "New Jersey, Deaths, 1670-1988," database, *FamilySearch*, Elizabeth Haley, 10 Jun 1870; citing , Polhemustown, New Jersey, United States, Division of Archives and Record Management, New Jersey Department of State, Trenton.; FHL microfilm 584,590.

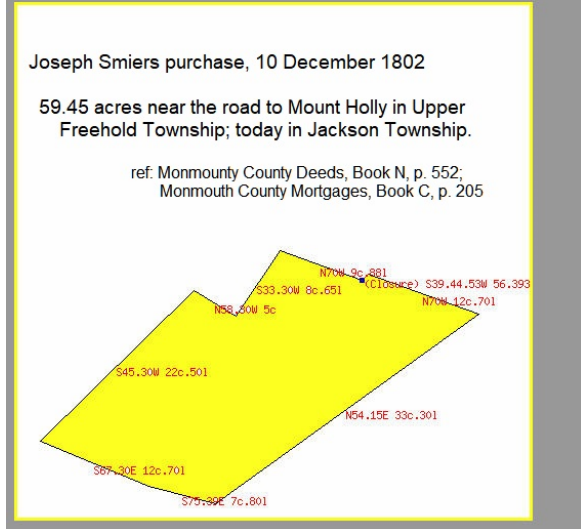


Property maps

2423004.9324594 square feet
 55.624539312638 acres (+/- 0.440075 acres) Perimeter: 7128 feet
 Closure: S39.44.53W 56.393348f (0.79115247331237% or 1:126 perimeter error)

CENSUS NOTES

- 1870: John SMIRES (46 years old), wife Mary, children Henry, Joseph, John C., Katie and Ivins appear in the 1870 U.S. Census, Burlington Co., NJ; New Hanover Twp., Post Office at Bordentown, p.768, family 388, dwelling 359, lines 35-40 and p.769, line 1; Nat'l. Archives microfilm M593, reel 857.
- 1880: Wrightsboro, New Hanover Tp., p. 472B, line 39, appears John and Mary with the same children plus Elvin H., 7 y.o. as grandson.
- 1860: Rebecca Smires (b.1794)(1860, Plumsted Twp., Ocean Co., p.29);
- 1860: Daniel Smires (b.1844)(1860, Plumsted Twp., Ocean Co., p.44);
- 1830: Margaret Smires appears with three females in Upper Freehold Twp, page 360.
- 1840, Margaret Smyers with 2 females in Upper Freehold, p.209, next to:
- 1840: John Smyers with a wife and 3 children.
- 1910 Census, Upper Freehold Tp. (ED 114, Sht 247, Ln 1): Charles SMIRES, 45 y.o., with wife Margaret, 31 y.o. Married 1 year. Margaret had 4 ch. from previous marriage to ? DAY, 2 are enumerated: Addie, 7 and May, 4. This Charles is possibly the same as the one mentioned on the stone in Creamridge Cem.



Creamridge Cemetery:

- Elizabeth, wife of Charles Smires, aged 42, died 24 July 1902; along with 2 infant children.

IMMIGRATION:

- SMYER, Eliza. & Johan; Philadelphia, 1733; "Pennsylvania Merchant" arrived from Rotterdam (Holland). 18 Sept. 1733. "List of Palatine Passengers on 'Pennsylvania Merchant', Pennsylvania German Pioneers, Ralph B. Strassburger, 1964, Genealogical Publishing Co., (Call # 974.8 St 7645) Vol. 1, p. 122 and Vol. 2, p. 117 (Found in Filby's Immigration Records, Original set, p.123)
- SMEYER, Philip came on same ship as above. Also see "Names of Foreigners Who Took Oath of Allegiance to Pennsylvania" Pennsylvania Archives Series 2,

Vol. 17, Genealogical Publishing Co. (Not at LDS) (Found in Filby 1983, p. 92; Eliza. & Johan, above, are on p.93)

- SMEYER, Johannes and wife and 4 children; "Embarkation Lists of Palatines from Rotterdam" Public Record Office in England; 1/119, 6-10, 19-26, 61-72, 58-65, 79-82. 3rd Party Embarkation, June 5 to June 10, 1709. See also "The Embarkation Lists From Holland" Early 18th Century Palatine Emigration, Genealogical Publishing Co., 1965. (Call # 973 K 749) (Found in Filby 1985, p.258)

Monmouth County records:

Marriages

- Smires, John m. Richardson, Rebecca; 19 January 1828.
- Francis, Johnson m. Smires, Charlotte; 14 March 1821.
- Coward, Alexander m. Smires, Jane A.; 16 September 1830. "of Upper Freehold"

Proceedings:

- Smires, Sarah H., volume 17, page 62, died 22 April 1913, Ellisdale.

Burlington County records:

- Smyers, John; son born to Dennis & Elizabeth, 20 Sept. 1865, New Hanover Tp.
- Smyers, Sarah, daughter of John of Philadelphia, m. Theodor S. Pullen, son of Benjamin of 'Pullentown' Burlington Co., on 1 January 1865, Chesterfield Tp.

Landgrant:

- SMIRES, Lewis rec'd land grant March 1807 in Chilliothe Ohio Land Office district, range 19, Twp. 12, section 9. Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Nat'l. Archives microcopy 25, roll 3, p.312.

East Jersey Proprietors, Board of –no indexed deeds for Smiers, Smyars, Smires, Smyers (2018)

BOOK: SMYERS Family, at Newberry Library, Chicago, IL

SMYERS, Lexington, MA, birth, marriages & deaths, 1898. Call No: 389 E 69495.502.

The author wishes to thank the innumerable librarians, archivists, genealogists, and other writers of local and national histories and works of genealogical research without who this, and my other, works would have been much more difficult.

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All are available by going to the URL:

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Brian+A.+Smith%2C+D.C.%22>